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1899 Royal Arch Masons



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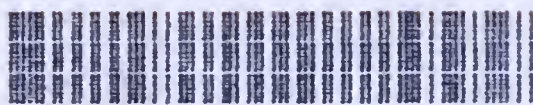
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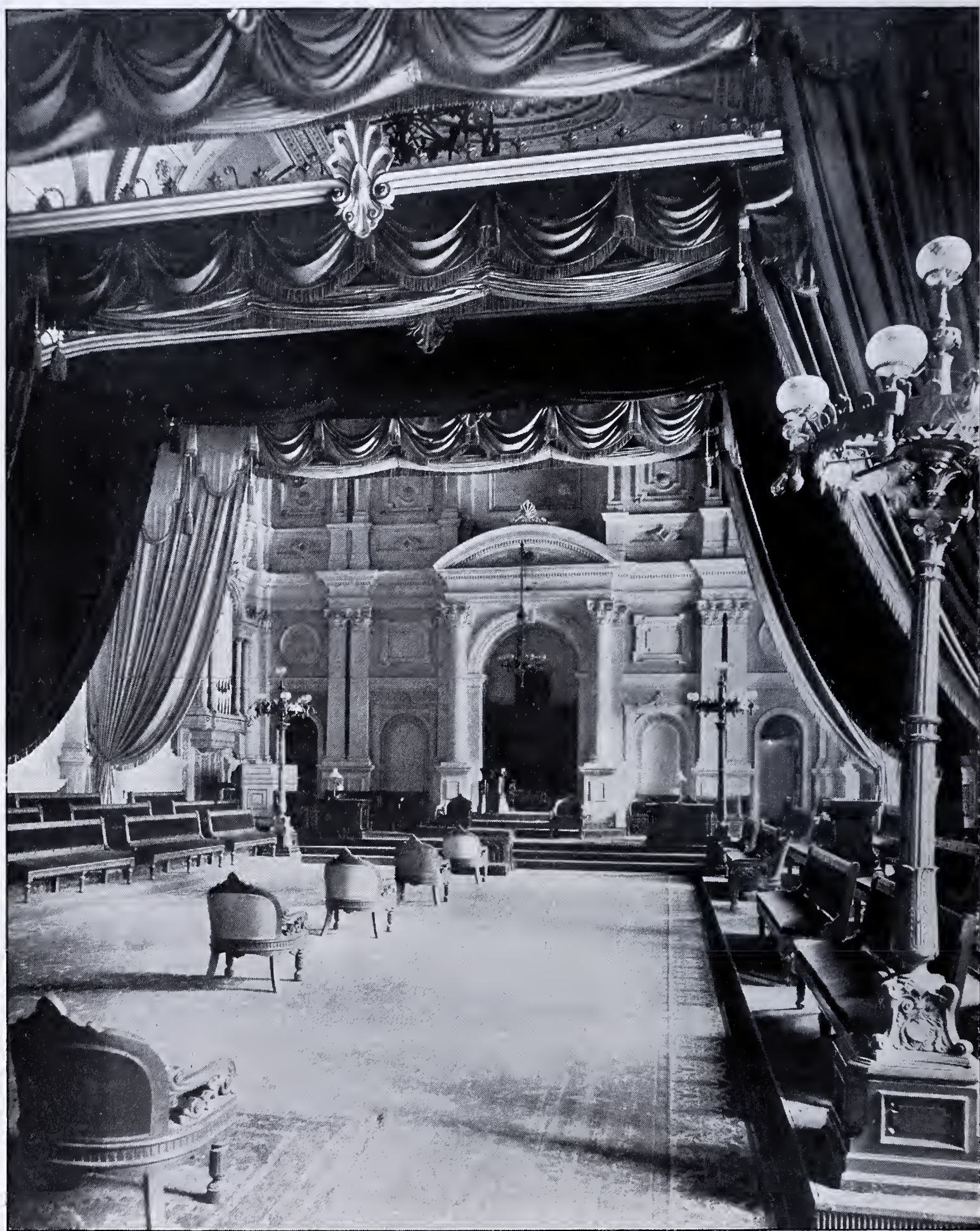




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RENAISSANCE HALL (GRAND CHAPTER ROOM) MASONIC TEMPLE

PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE GRAND
HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF PENNSYLVANIA
AND
MASONIC JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 27, 1899,
BEING ITS ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH YEAR.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRINTED FOR THE GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA BY THE
THOMSON PRINTING CO., 310 CHERRY ST.
1900.





W. B. Jacobs

M. E. GRAND HIGH PRIEST

1899-1900

THE GRAND
HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1795—1899.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA,
MARCH 2, A. D. 1899, A. I. 2429.

PRESENT :

- Comp. MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS, . *M. E. Grand High Priest.*
“ EDWARD B. SPENCER, *M. E. Grand King.*
“ HENRY OSCAR KLINE, *M. E. Grand Scribe.*
“ THOMAS R. PATTON, *M. E. Grand Treasurer.*
“ CHARLES CARY, *M. E. Grand Secretary.*
“ REV. WILLIAM B. CHALFANT, *Grand Chaplain.*
“ REV. HORACE F. FULLER; . . *Grand Chaplain.*
“ EDWIN H. COANE, *Grand Captain of the Host,*
“ CARL A. SUNDSTROM, *Grand Principal Sojourner.*
“ FRANCIS H. HEMPERLEY, . . *Grand Royal Arch Captain.*
“ FRANKLIN P. MASON, *Grand Master of the Third Vail.*
“ ADAM H. SCHMEHL, *Grand Master of the Second Vail.*
“ BENJAMIN EISEMAN, *Grand Master of the First Vail.*
“ JAMES G. BEATH, *as Grand Marshal.*
“ WALTER SCOTT, *as Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*
“ FORREST E. GORDON, *Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*
“ FRANK M. HIGHLEY, *Grand Pursuivant.*
“ WILLIAM B. JOSLYN, *Grand Tyler.*

District Deputy Grand High Priests.—Comps. JOHN B. SPRENKEL, STEPHEN H. APPLETON, JOHN H. SHOPP, T. DARLINGTON BUCKWALTER, ALBERT R. HOOVER, PETER BARKEY, JOHN W. FARNSWORTH, REUBEN A. ZIMMERMAN.

Past Grand High Priests.—M. E. Comps. GEORGE E. WAGNER, HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEO. W. KENDRICK, JR., JAMES S. BARBER, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, EDGAR A. TENNIS, EZRA S. BARTLETT, RICHARD M. JOHNSON.

Grand Representatives.

Comp. EDWARD J. JAMES, of Grand Chapter of Alabama.

- " J. SIMPSON AFRICA, of Grand Chapter of California.
- " THOMAS R. PATTON, of Grand Chapters of Canada and Scotland.
- " JAMES S. BARBER, of Grand Chapters of Delaware and North Carolina.
- " GEORGE E. WAGNER, of Grand Mark Lodge of England.
- " FRANK M. HIGHLEY, of Grand Chapter of Indiana.
- " RICHARD M. JOHNSON, of Grand Chapter of Indian Territory.
- " EDGAR A. TENNIS, of Grand Chapter of Kentucky.
- " ALEXANDER MCCUNE, of Grand Chapter of Maine.
- " J. HENRY WILLIAMS, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.
- " N. FERREE LIGHTNER, of Grand Chapter of Minnesota.
- " GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., of Grand Chapter of Nebraska.
- " JOSEPH EICHBAUM, of Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.
- " EZRA S. BARTLETT, of Grand Chapter of New Jersey.
- " CHARLES CARY, of Grand Chapter of New York.
- " MICHAEL W. JACOBS, of Grand Chapter of North Dakota.
- " EDWARD B. SPENCER, of Grand Chapter of Oregon.
- " HIBBERT P. JOHN, of Grand Chapter of Tennessee.
- " WILLIAM A. SINN, of Grand Chapter of Texas.
- " CONRAD B. DAY, of Grand Chapter of Virginia.
- " CHARLES K. FRANCIS, of Grand Chapter of Wisconsin.

Chapters No. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 152, 169, 175, 183, 185, 189, 190, 192, 196, 197, 199, 201, 202, 203, 208, 209, 215, 218, 219, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 232, 234, 237, 238, 239, 240, 243, 248, 250, 251, 255, 256, 257, 258, 262, 266, 268, 270, 271. (48 Chapters.)

The Grand Chapter was opened in *Ample Form* at seven o'clock P. M.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, December 8th, 1898, and of the Annual Grand Communication held on Tuesday, December 27th, 1898, were separately read and approved.

By-Laws were received from Chapters No. 281 and Amendments to By-Laws from Chapter No. 169 and 268, which were referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows:

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, February 24, 1899.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS :—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Comp. Thomas R. Patton, and the M. E. Grand Secretary, Comp. Charles Cary, from November 19th 1898, to February 24th 1899, and found them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing :—

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand, November 19th, 1898,		1,984 45
From Chapters and Mark Lodges,	4,544 80	
Interest on Deposits,	19 62	
Constitutions,	5 00	
Dispensations,	3 00	
Certificate,	2 00	4,574 42
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Total,		6,558 87

EXPENDITURES.

Expenses of D. D. Grand High Priests,	529 91	
Salaries,	427 50	
Tuning and care of Organ,	40 00	
Clothing and Furniture,	41 50	1,038 91
		<hr/>
Balance in hands of Grand Treasurer,	5,519 96	

Fraternally submitted,
(Signed)

EZRA S. BARTLETT,
WILLIAM M. DONALDSON,
CHARLES W. PACKER,
M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,
JACOB W. JACKSON,

Committee on Finance.

The Committee on By-Laws presented the following Report, which was accepted as read, and the accompanying Resolutions were, on motion, adopted:—

PHILADELPHIA, March 2, 1899.

To the Grand H. R. A. Chapter of Pennsylvania.

COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on By-Laws beg leave to report that they have examined the By-Laws and Amendments to By-Laws submitted to them, and respectfully offer the following:—

Resolved, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 235 be amended as follows:

Art. IV, Sec. 6.—Strike out the word “judgments.”

Art. IX, Sec. 4.—Add the words “in a permanent fund,” and that, as so amended, they be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 281 be amended as follows:

Art. VI.—Strike out the words “subject to the provisions of Article V, Section I.”

Art. XI.—Strike out the entire Article.

Change title of Article XII to “Article XI,” and, as so amended, they be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed Amendment to By-Laws of Chapter No. 169 be further amended by adding the words "provided that a motion therefor be made in writing at a Stated Meeting, and adopted by a two-thirds vote at a subsequent Stated Meeting, after due notice to the members," and, as so amended, it be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed Amendment to By-Laws of Chapter No. 268 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,
(Signed)

EDGAR A. TENNIS,
Chairman.

The Committee on Printing and Publishing submitted the following Report, which was accepted as read:—

PHILADELPHIA, March 2, 1899.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS :—Your Committee on Printing and Publishing reports the awarding of the contract for printing the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter for the year 1898 to MacCalla & Company, Incorporated. They are now in process of printing, and will be issued during the present month.

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed)

H. I. MCINTIRE, JR.,
Chairman.

General Returns for 1898 were received from eighty-four (84) Chapters and three (3) Mark Lodges, which were ordered to be entered and filed.

A Missive was received from the M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Wisconsin, appointing Companion CHARLES K. FRANCIS its Representative near this Grand Chapter.

On motion, Companion Charles K. Francis was acknowledged as such Representative.

A Communication was received from the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, State of Illinois, announcing the death, on December 30th, 1898, of M. E. Companion JAMES A. HAWLEY, Past Grand High Priest.

A Communication was received from the Grand Chapter of Nebraska, announcing the death, on January 9th, 1899, of M. E. Companion ROBERT C. JORDAN, Past Grand High Priest.

The Grand Chapter was "called off" for the purpose of exemplifying the Mark Degree.

A Lodge of Mark Master Masons was opened, and the Degree of Mark Master Mason was exemplified.

The Lodge of Master Masons was closed.

The Grand Chapter was then "called on."

The M. E. Grand High Priest made the following announcement:—

"The decisions of preceding Grand High Priests as to what is the Chapter 'nearest to the place of residence of the petitioner' within the meaning of Section 9, Article XVII, of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, which requires inquiry to be made 'of a Chapter in this Jurisdiction nearest to the place of residence of the petitioner' when a petition for the degrees and membership is received by a Chapter other than that which is nearest to his 'place of residence,' being in conflict, and the question involved being one of great importance and of frequent occurrence in practice, the M. E. Grand High Priest feels called upon to submit this question to the Committee on Jurisprudence, to consider and report upon to the Grand Chapter, in order that, if possible, it may be definitively settled by the action of the Grand Chapter itself."

The Grand Chapter was closed in Peace at nine o'clock and twenty-five minutes, P. M.

CHARLES CARY,
Grand Secretary.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 8, 1899, A. I. 2429.

PRESENT :

- Comp. MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS, . . *M. E. Grand High Priest.*
“ EDWARD B. SPENCER, *M. E. Grand King.*
“ HENRY OSCAR KLINE, *M. E. Grand Scribe.*
“ THOMAS R. PATTON, *M. E. Grand Treasurer.*
“ CHARLES CARY, *M. E. Grand Secretary.*
“ REV. WILLIAM B. CHALFANT, *Grand Chaplain.*
“ HENRY W. SMITH, *as Grand Captain of the Host.*
“ CARL A. SUNDSTROM, *Grand Principal Sojourner.*
“ FRANCIS H. HEMPERLEY, . . *Grand Royal Arch Captain.*
“ FRANKLIN P. MASON, *Grand Master of the Third Vail.*
“ ADAM H. SCHMEHL, *Grand Master of the Second Vail.*
“ BENJAMIN EISEMAN, *Grand Master of the Third Vail.*
“ GEORGE B. WELLS *Grand Marshal.*
“ JOHN O'DONNELL, *Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*
“ FORREST E. GORDON, *Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*
“ FRANK M. HIGHLEY, *Grand Pursuivant.*
“ WILLIAM B. JOSLYN, *Grand Tyler.*

District Deputy Grand High Priests.—Comps. JOHN B. SPRENKEL, STEPHEN H. APPLETON, T. DARLINGTON BUCKWALTER, ALBERT R. HOOVER, JOSEPH J. LINGLE, DANIEL B. ELSE, MARTIN L. SHAFFNER, JOHN W. FARNSWORTH, ELLIS H. DOAN, EDWARD R. W. SEARLE, SAMUEL S. YOHE.

Past Grand High Priests.—M. E. Comps. GEORGE E. WAGNER, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, JAMES S. BARBER, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, EDGAR A. TENNIS, EZRA S. BARTLETT, RICHARD M. JOHNSON.

Grand Representatives.

Comp. EDWARD J. JAMES, of Grand Chapter of Alabama.

- " THOMAS R. PATTON, of Grand Chapters of Canada and Scotland.
- " JAMES S. BARBER, of Grand Chapters of Delaware and North Carolina.
- " DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, of Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.
- " GEORGE E. WAGNER, of Grand Mark Lodge of England.
- " H. OSCAR KLINE, of Grand Chapter of Florida.
- " GEORGE B. WELLS, of Grand Chapter of Illinois.
- " FRANK M. HIGHLEY, of Grand Chapter of Indiana.
- " RICHARD M. JOHNSON, of Grand Chapter of Indian Territory.
- " EDGAR A. TENNIS, of Grand Chapter of Kentucky.
- " J. HENRY WILLIAMS, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.
- " MARTIN L. SHAFFNER, of Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.
- " GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., of Grand Chapter of Nebraska.
- " EZRA S. BARTLETT, of Grand Chapter of New Jersey.
- " CHARLES CARY, of Grand Chapter of New York.
- " MICHAEL W. JACOBS, of Grand Chapter of North Dakota.
- " SAMUEL S. YOHE, of Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia.
- " EDWARD B. SPENCER, of Grand Chapter of Oregon.
- " JOSEPH M. WIATT, of Grand Chapter of South Carolina.
- " MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, of Grand Chapter of Victoria.
- " CHARLES K. FRANCIS, of Grand Chapter of Wisconsin.

Chapters No. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 152, 163, 169, 173, 175, 180, 183, 197, 199, 201, 203, 209, 210, 218, 222, 224, 226, 227, 232, 234, 237, 238, 239, 240, 243, 244, 245, 247, 248, 250, 255, 256, 262, 266, 267, 268, 271 (42 Chapters).

The Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form at seven o'clock P. M.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, March 2, 1899, were read and approved.

By-Laws were received from Chapters No. 245, 256, 262 and 268, and Amendments to By-Laws from Chapters No. 167, 251, 260 and 277, which were referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

A Petition was received from Chapter No. 229, asking that Dispensation to "continue labor," granted by the M. E. Grand High Priest on March 23, 1899, be continued for a further period of three months, the warrant of said Chapter having been destroyed by fire.

On motion, the petition was referred to the M. E. Grand High Priest, with power to act.

The Committee on Jurisprudence submitted the following report, which was received as read, and the accompanying recommendation was, on motion, unanimously adopted.

PHILADELPHIA, June 7, 1899.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS :—Your Committee on Jurisprudence having had submitted to them the following communication from the M. E. Grand High Priest :

"The decisions of preceding M. E. Grand High Priests as to what is the Chapter 'nearest to the place of residence of the petitioner' within the meaning of Section 9, Article XVII. of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, which requires inquiry to be made 'of a Chapter in this jurisdiction nearest the place of residence of the petitioner,' when a petition for the degrees and membership is received by a Chapter other than that which is nearest to his 'place of residence,' being in conflict, and the question involved being one of great importance and of frequent occurrence in practice, the M. E. Grand High Priest feels called upon to submit this question to the Committee on Jurisprudence, to consider and report upon to the Grand Chapter, in order that, if possible, it may be definitively settled by the action of the Grand Chapter itself."

We beg leave to report that in 1888 a decision was made, and in 1896 it was confirmed by action of the committee appointed on the Revision of the Constitution. It is proven beyond a question of doubt that it was for the

best interests of the Grand Chapter to work under this decision, as harmony and good feeling have existed during that time. We refer to page 116, Book of Constitution, which reads as follows :—

“ JURISDICTION.—Distance from the residence of a petitioner to the nearest Chapter must be measured on a straight line, without regard to roads or lines of communication.”

We recommend that this decision be again confirmed as the recognized law of this Grand Chapter.

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed) GEO. W. KENDRICK, JR.

GEO. E. WAGNER,

H. P. JOHN,

JAMES S. BARBER,

Committee.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows ;—

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, June 2, 1899.

To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

COMPANIONS :—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Comp. Thomas R. Patton; and the books of the M. E. Grand Secretary, Comp. Charles Cary, from February 24, 1899, to June 2d, 1899, and find them correct and agreeing with their vouchers showing :—

Balance on hand February 24, 1899, 5,519 96

RECEIPTS.

From Chapters and Mark Lodge,	743 55	
Constitutions,	5 00	
Dispensations,	3 00	
Interest on Masonic Loan,	400 00	
Interest on Deposits,	50 09	1,201 64
		<hr/>
Total,		6,721 60

Amount brought forward 6,721 60

EXPENDITURES.

Expenses of the M. E. Grand High Priest,	323 35	
Rent,	1,500 00	
Salaries,	427 50	
Clothing and Furniture,	11 00	
Printing, Postage and Stationery,	588 29	2,850 14

Balance in hands of M. E. Grand Treasurer, 3,871 46

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed) EZRA S. BARTLETT,

CHARLES W. PACKER,

JACOB W. JACKSON,

Committee on Finance.

The Committee on By-Laws presented the following Report, and the several Resolutions attached thereto, were, on motion, adopted:—

PHILADELPHIA, June 8, 1899.

To the Officers and Members of

The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

COMPANIONS.—Your Committee on By-Laws submit the following Resolutions.

Resolved, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 245 be amended by striking out Article XII, and by changing title of "Article XIII" to "Article XII," and, as so amended, they be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapters No. 256 and 262 be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 251 and 277 be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapter No. 260 be amended by striking out the words "at which he shall serve," and inserting the words "of the Chapter," and, as so amended, they be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed) EDGAR A. TENNIS,

Chairman.

A Petition was received from a number (59) of Royal Arch Masons for a warrant for a new Chapter to be held at McKeesport, Allegheny County, to be called *McKeesport Royal Arch Chapter*. On motion, the petition was referred to the Grand Officers, with power to act.

A Missive was received from Companion W. P. Webster, M. E. Grand High Priest of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, State of Florida, appointing M. E. Companion HENRY OSCAR KLINE as Representative of that Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

On motion, Companion Henry Oscar Kline was acknowledged as such representative.

Communications were received from several Grand Chapters announcing the death of distinguished Companions, as follows:

Grand Chapter R. A. Masons of Ohio, announcing the death, on March 12, 1899, of M. E. Companion CHARLES C. KIEFER, Past Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary.

Grand Chapter of R. A. Masons State of Illinois, announcing the death, on March 30, 1899, of Past Grand High Priest M. E. Companion ASA W. BLAKESLEY.

Grand R. A. Chapter of Massachusetts, announcing the death, on April 7, 1899, of M. E. Companion SERANUS BOWEN, M. D., Past Grand High Priest, and Representative of this Grand Chapter.

Grand Chapter R. A. Masons of Oregon, announcing the death, on April 14, 1899, of M. E. Companion GEORGE M. STROUD, Past Grand High Priest.

The Grand Chapter R. A. Masons of Nebraska, announcing the death, on May 6, 1899, of R. E. Companion WILLIAM ROBERTS BOWEN, Grand Secretary and Representative of this Grand Chapter.

Grand Chapter R. A. Masons of Arkansas, announcing the death of M. E. Companion JAMES H. VANHOOSE, Past Grand High Priest, on May 6, 1899.

The Grand Chapter was "called off" for the purpose of exemplifying the Most Excellent Master Masons' Degree.

A Lodge of Most Excellent Master Masons was opened, and the degree of Most Excellent Master Mason was exemplified.

The Lodge of Most Excellent Master Masons was closed.

The Grand Chapter was then "called on."

M. E. Companion ISAAC F. STIDHAM, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, addressed the Grand Chapter, extending fraternal greetings.

The Grand Chapter was closed in Peace at eight o'clock and fifty minutes P. M.

CHARLES CARY,
Grand Secretary.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA,

SEPTEMBER 7, A. D. 1899, A. I. 2429.

PRESENT.

- Comp. MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS, . . *M. E. Grand High Priest.*
 “ EDWARD B. SPENCER, . . . *M. E. Grand King.*
 “ HENRY OSCAR KLINE, . . . *M. E. Grand Scribe.*
 “ THOMAS R. PATTON, . . . *M. E. Grand Treasurer.*
 “ CHARLES CARY, *M. E. Grand Secretary.*
 “ REV. HENRY S. GETZ, . . . *Grand Chaplain.*
 “ REV. THOMAS B. ANGELL, . . *Grand Chaplain.*
 “ REV. HORACE F. FULLER, . . *Grand Chaplain.*
 “ DAVID W. STEWART, . . . *as Grand Captain of the Host.*
 “ CARL A. SUNDSTROM, *Grand Principal Sojourner.*
 “ FRANCIS H. HEMPERLEY, . . *Grand Royal Arch Captain.*
 “ FRANKLIN P. MASON, *Grand Master of the Third Vail.*
 “ ADAM H. SCHMEHL, *Grand Master of the Second Vail.*
 “ BENJAMIN EISEMAN, *Grand Master of the First Vail.*
 “ GEORGE B. WELLS, *Grand Marshal.*
 “ JOHN O'DONNELL, *Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*
 “ FORREST E. GORDON, *Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*
 “ FRANK M. HIGHLY, *Grand Pursuivant.*
 “ WILLIAM B. JOSLYN, *Grand Tyler.*

District Deputy Grand High Priests :—Comps. JOHN MCKAIN, JOHN B. SPRENKEL, STEPHEN H. APPLETON, T. DARLINGTON BUCKWALTER, DANIEL Z. WALKER, JOSEPH J. LINGLE, DANIEL B. ELSE, JOHN W. FARNSWORTH, THOMAS ROSE, SAMUEL S. YOHE.

Past Grand High Priests :—M. E. Companions GEORGE E. WAGNER, HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., JAMES S. BARBER, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, EDGAR A. TENNIS.

Grand Representatives.

Comp. EDWARD J. JAMES, of Grand Chapter of Alabama.

“ J. SIMPSON AFRICA, of Grand Chapter of California.

“ THOMAS R. PATTON, of Grand Chapters of Canada and Scotland.

“ JAS. S. BARBER, of Grand Chapters of Delaware and North Carolina.

“ GEORGE E. WAGNER, of Grand Mark Lodge of England.

“ H. OSCAR KLINE, of Grand Chapter of Florida.

“ GEORGE B. WELLS, of Grand Chapter of Illinois.

“ FRANK M. HIGHLEY, of Grand Chapter of Indiana.

“ JOSHUA L. LYTE, of Grand Chapter of Iowa.

“ SAMUEL W. WRAY, of Grand Chapter of Kansas.

“ EDGAR A. TENNIS, of Grand Chapter of Kentucky.

“ ALEXANDER McCUNE, of Grand Chapter of Maine.

“ J. HENRY WILLIAMS, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.

“ GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., of Grand Chapter of Nebraska.

“ CHARLES CARY, of Grand Chapter of New York.

“ MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS, of Grand Chapter of North Dakota.

“ SAMUEL S. YOHE, of Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia.

“ EDWARD B. SPENCER, of Grand Chapter of Oregon.

“ JOHN MCKAIN, of Grand Chapter of Quebec.

“ JOSEPH M. WIATT, of Grand Chapter of South Carolina.

“ HIBBERT P. JOHN, of Grand Chapter of Tennessee.

“ CHARLES K. FRANCIS, of Grand Chapter of Wisconsin.

Chapters Nos. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 152, 166, 169, 173, 175, 180, 183, 192, 193, 197, 199, 201, 202, 203, 208, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 226, 227, 228, 232, 234, 237, 238, 239, 240, 243, 245, 250, 251, 255, 256, 258, 262, 266, 271. (47 Chapters.)

The Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form at seven o'clock, P. M.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, June 8th, 1899, were read and approved.

By-Laws were received from Chapters No. 167, 203 and 268, and Amendments to By-Laws from Chapters Nos. 183 and 217, which were referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

A Communication was received from Newtown Chapter, No. 229, stating that the Warrant and other properties of the said Chapter had been destroyed by fire on March 1st, 1899, and asking permission to *cease labor*; whereupon it was, on motion,

Resolved, That the request of Chapter No. 229 to "cease labor" be granted, and that the authority under which said chapter has worked be resumed by the Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to issue certificates of "Good Masonic Standing" to such members of (late) Chapter No. 229 as are entitled to receive the same.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows:—

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, September 1st, 1899.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Companion Thomas R. Patton, and the books of the M. E. Grand Secretary, Companion Charles Cary, from June 2d, 1899, to August 31st, 1899, and find them correct, and agreeing with their vouchers, showing:—

Balance on hand June 2, 1899,	3,871 46
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RECEIPTS.

From Chapters and Mark Lodges,	609 40	
Warrant Fee,	100 00	
Certificates,	2 00	
Constitution,	1 00	712 40
Total,		4,583 86

EXPENDITURES.

Expenses of M. E. Grand High Priest,	2 82 95	
Salaries,	427 50	
Printing, Postage, etc.,	14 55	725 00

Balance in hand of M. E. Grand Treasurer \$3,858 86

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed)

EZRA S. BARTLETT,
M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,
JACOB W. JACKSON,
CHARLES W. PACKER,

Committee.

The Committee on By-Laws submitted the following Report, and the several Resolutions attached thereto were, on motion adopted:—

PHILADELPHIA, September 7th, 1899.

To the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on By-Laws respectfully report that they have examined the By-Laws and Amendments to By-Laws referred to them, and offer the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 167 be amended as follows:—

Art. V, Sec. 1.—Strike out the words “considered a part of.”

Art. VI.—Strike out “subject to the provisions of Art. V, Sec. 1,” and that, as so amended, they be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 203, be amended as follows:—

Art. VI.—Strike out “subject to the provisions of Art. V, Sec. 1.”

Art. VII.—Strike out “by vote of the Chapter, or,” and that, as so amended, they be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 268 be amended as follows:—

Art. III, Sec. 4.—Strike out the words “not” and “only” and insert the word “not” after “or” in the fourth line. Strike out “and” in fifth line and insert the word “nor.”

Art. IV, Sec. 5.—Strike out “paraphernalia.”

Art. VII, Sec. 1.—Strike out “a vote of the Chapter, or.”

Art. XI, Sec. 2.—Strike out all after “requires,” and that, as so amended, they be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 183 and 217 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed)

EDGAR A. TENNIS,

for the Committee.

The Grand Secretary presented the following Annual Report:—

PHILADELPHIA, September 7, 1899.

*To the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania
and Masonic Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging.*

COMPANIONS:—The Grand Secretary respectfully presents the following Annual Report of the work and membership of the Chapters and Mark Lodges of the Jurisdiction for the year ending December 27, 1898.

CHAPTERS.

Membership, December 27, 1897, as per last report,	17,459	
Admitted during the year 1898,	129	
Restored to membership,	36	
Marked, etc.,	1,176	1,341
		<hr/>
Total,		18,800

DEDUCT.

Died during the year 1898,	292	
Resigned, or membership ceased,	140	
Suspended or expelled	319	751
		<hr/>
Membership, December 27, 1898, as per returns,	18,049	
A net gain of	590	
Rejected during 1898,	55	
Restored to good Masonic standing,	23	

MARK LODGES.

Membership, December 27, 1897, as per last report,	914	
Admitted during the year 1898,	3	
		<hr/>
Total,		917

DEDUCT

Died during the year 1898,	42	
Suspended,	2	44
<hr/>		
Membership, December 27, 1898, as per returns, . .		873
Number of Chapters December 27, 1898,	123	
Number of Mark Lodges,	3	

Fraternally submitted,

CHARLES CARY,

Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Grand Secretary.

No.	Name.	Marked.	Adm.	D.	Res.	Susp.	Memb
3	Jerusalem,	24		8	1	6	389
21	Perseverance,	5	2	6	2	10	158
43		10		3	1	1	274
52	Harmony,	47	6	22	5	5	978
91	Columbia,	11	1	12	4	6	456
150	Washington,	8			17	10	110
152	Reading,	6		1		2	201
159	Schuylkill,	1			1		32
161	Union,	4		2		2	148
162	Zerubbabel,	72	3	13	2		731
163	LaFayette,	5				8	102
164	Brownsville,	2		1	1		66
165	Union,	13	1				128
166	Mount Moriah,	5	1			3	70
167	Eureka	9	1	2			69
169	Philadelphia,	10	2	9	2	4	168
170	Delta,	13	2	3	1	3	120
171	St. John's,	8	1	1			82
172	Temple,	6					58
173	Easton,	5	4	3	2	6	174
174	Northumberland,	1	1				50
175	Keystone,	34		11	1		470
176	George Washington,	3	2				72
177	Tamaqua,	3		1		2	42
178	Catawissa			1			19
179	Eureka,	4				5	92
180	Warren,	1					28
181	Lilly,	1		2	2	1	126

182	Shekinah,	11		1	1	1	197
183	Oriental,	27	2	20	12	45	1,085
185	Lackawanna,	10		1	2	13	191
186	Lewistown,	2		2		1	55
187	Oriental,	1		1			42
189	Mountain,	16		2		1	202
190	Norristown,	12		3		3	230
191	Solomon,	6		3	2		77
192	Urania,	5	1	2	1	1	171
193	Duquesne,	49	3	3	1	3	531
194	Tioga,	1				3	48
195	Portage,	13		2			109
196	Mountain City,	7		1			123
197	Weidle,	4		1	1	1	84
198	Phoenix,	7	1			3	136
199	Howell	5	1	3			127
200	Columbus,	2	1	2	1	3	85
201	Standing Stone,	3				2	85
202	Howell,	4		3		2	77
203	Allen,	4		1			158
204	Anthony Wayne,	9		2			30
205	Factoryville,						31
206	Harmony,	5			2		62
207	Aaron,	3				1	49
208	Germantown,	2		4		4	151
209	Samuel C. Perkins,				1		62
210	Great Bend,			1	1	1	33
211	Venango,	14	3				118
212	Mound,	15	4	1	3	2	120
214	Valley,	2				3	67
215	Temple,	10		2	7	6	223
216	Zinzendorf,	2		1		4	82
217	Allegheny,	55	4	7	1	10	500
218	Bloomsburg,	4					65
219	Griscom,	1		1		3	63
220	Fort Washington,		1	1		4	30
221	Tremont,	2		2		2	60
222	Lycoming,	20	2	4	3	3	182
223	Oxford,	3		2	1		57
224	Corinthian,	2					80
225	Jefferson,	14		2	3	3	119
226	Siloam,	6		4		5	137
227	Emporium,	4				4	53

228	Clearfield,	14		2			116
229	Newtown,						29
230	Elk,	4	1	2	2	8	75
232	St. John,	19	1	6	1	3	259
233	Kensington,	16		12	2	6	447
234	Media,	2		1	2	1	67
235	Occidental,	9	3	3	3		123
236	Oil City,	7	2			1	91
237	Excelsior,	15		3	4		379
238	Newport,						49
239	Danville,	2		6		2	42
240	Palestine,	17	2	9	1	14	337
241	Bellefonte,					1	63
242	Pittston,	6	1	1	1	4	61
243	T. B. Freeman,	52	4	8		18	661
244	Norman,	3		2	3	1	97
245	Abington,	6		1	1		56
246	Warrior Run,	3					40
247	Orient,	9	1	2	3		79
248	Temple,	3	2	3	1	2	146
249	Monongahela,	8	2	1			55
250	Corinthian,	22	1	6	3		286
251	Signet,	2		5		5	129
252	Mizpah,			1	1		65
254	Arnold,						21
255	Bedford,	4					66
256	Fernwood,	12	2	3			121
257	Shiloh,	54	9	5	16	7	471
258	Chester,	16		1	1	3	186
259	Eden,	9		1	1		75
260	Bradford,	14	11	5	1	2	234
261	Troy,			1			77
262	Montgomery,	2		3		4	106
263	Coudersport,	5	2	1	1	9	71
264	Shamokin,	3	1	1			72
265	Westfield,						28
266	Good Samaritan,	12		1			56
267	Coatesville,	4		2		3	63
268	Pittsburgh,	35	2		3	4	243
269	Ulysses,		2				31
270	Doylestown,	4			1	3	72
271	Pottstown,	2		1	1	2	107
272	Hebron,	2					44

263	Butler,	13	I	I		2	107
274	Bangor,	3			I		51
275	Kennett,					I	36
276	The Susquehanna,			2	I		63
277	Hazleton,	7		I			76
278	Catasauqua,	I		2		2	43
279	Kane,	3	I				35
280	Cyrus,	43	41	I			83
281	Monroe,	36	23				59
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		1,176	165	292	140	319	18,049

A Communication was received from the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, of Arkansas, announcing the death, on June 22, 1899, of M. E. Companion JOHN J. SUMPTER, Past Grand High Priest.

A Communication was received from the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, announcing the death, on June 24, 1899, of R. E. Companion WALTER M. WRIGHT, Grand Scribe.

The Grand Chapter was "called off" and the Royal Arch Degree was exemplified for the instruction of the Companions.

The Grand Chapter was then called on.

The Grand Chapter was closed in peace at nine o'clock and ten minutes, P. M.

CHARLES CARY,
Grand Secretary.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA,

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, A. D., 1899, A. I. 2429.

PRESENT :

- Comp. MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS, . *M. E. Grand High Priest.*
 " EDWARD B. SPENCER, . . . *M. E. Grand King.*
 " HENRY OSCAR KLINE, . . . *M. E. Grand Scribe.*
 " THOMAS R. PATTON, *M. E. Grand Treasurer.*
 " CHARLES CARY, *M. E. Grand Secretary.*
 " REV. HENRY S. GETZ, . . . *Grand Chaplain.*
 " REV. WILLIAM B. CHALFANT, *Grand Chaplain.*
 " REV. HORACE F. FULLER, . *Grand Chaplain.*
 " EDWIN H. COANE, *Grand Captain of the Host.*
 " CARL A. SUNDSTROM *Grand Principal Sojourner.*
 " FRANCIS H. HEMPERLEY, . *Grand Royal Arch Captain.*
 " FRANKLIN P. MASON, . . . *Grand Master of the Third Vail.*
 " ADAM H. SCHMEHL, *Grand Master of the Second Vail.*
 " BENJAMIN EISEMAN, *Grand Master of the First Vail.*
 " GEORGE B. WELLS, *Grand Marshal.*
 " JOHN O'DONNELL, *Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*
 " FORREST E. GORDON, . . . *Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*
 " FRANK M. HIGHLEY, . . . *Grand Pursuivant.*
 " WILLIAM B. JOSLYN, *Grand Tyler.*

District Deputy Grand High Priests:—Companions JOHN MCKAIN, WILLIAM C. THOMPSON, CURTIS G. CAMPBELL, JOHN B. SPRENKEL, STEPHEN H. APPLETON, JOHN H. SHOPP, ALBERT R. HOOVER, CHRISTIAN A. SEIDEL, DANIEL Z. WALKER, JAMES H. CODDING, JOSEPH J. LINGLE, DANIEL B. ELSE, HARRY M. CHENOWETH, PETER BARKEY, JOHN C. WALLACE, JOHN W. FARNSWORTH, CYRUS H. BLOOD, THOMAS ROSE, SAMUEL S. YOHE, REUBEN A. ZIMMERMAN.

Past Grand High Priests:—M. E. Companions GEORGE E. WAGNER, HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, JAMES S. BARBER, EDGAR A. TENNIS, EZRA S. BARTLETT, RICHARD M. JOHNSON.

Grand Representatives.

Comp. EDWARD J. JAMES, of Grand Chapter of Alabama.

- “ J. SIMPSON AFRICA, of Grand Chapter of California.
- “ THOMAS R. PATTON, of Grand Chapters of Canada and Scotland.
- “ JAS. S. BARBER, of Grand Chapters of Delaware and North Carolina.
- “ DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, of Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.
- “ GEORGE E. WAGNER, of Grand Mark Lodge of England.
- “ H. OSCAR KLINE, of Grand Chapter of Florida.
- “ GEORGE B. WELLS, of Grand Chapter of Illinois.
- “ FRANK M. HIGHLEY, of Grand Chapter of Indiana.
- “ RICHARD M. JOHNSON, of Grand Chapter of Indian Territory.
- “ SAMUEL W. WRAY, of Grand Chapter of Kansas.
- “ EDGAR A. TENNIS, of Grand Chapter of Kentucky.
- “ ALEXANDER McCUNE, of Grand Chapter of Maine.
- “ J. HENRY WILLIAMS, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.
- “ N. FERREE LIGHTNER, of Grand Chapter of Minnesota.
- “ GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., of Grand Chapter of Nebraska.
- “ ROBERT J. LINDEN, of Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.
- “ EZRA S. BARTLETT, of Grand Chapter of New Jersey.
- “ CHARLES CARY, of Grand Chapter of New York.
- “ MICHAEL W. JACOBS, of Grand Chapter of North Dakota.
- “ SAMUEL S. YOHE, of Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia.
- “ EDWARD B. SPENCER, of Grand Chapter of Oregon.
- “ JOHN MCKAIN, of Grand Chapter of Quebec.
- “ JOSEPH M. WIATT, of Grand Chapter of South Carolina.
- “ HIBBERT P. JOHN, of Grand Chapter of Tennessee.
- “ WILLIAM A. SINN, of Grand Chapter of Texas.
- “ LOUIS WAGNER, of Grand Chapter of Vermont.
- “ MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, of Grand Chapter of Victoria.
- “ CONRAD B. DAY, of Grand Chapter of Virginia.
- “ JOHN C. WALLACE, of Grand Chapter of West Virginia.

Chapters Nos. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 150, 152, 159, 161, 162, 165, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 180, 181, 182, 183, 185, 186, 189, 190, 192, 193, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 208, 209, 211, 212, 214, 215, 216, 219, 220, 221, 222, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 230, 232, 234, 237, 238, 239, 240, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 255, 257, 258, 259, 260, 262, 263, 266, 267, 268, 271, 273, 275, 277, 280, 282. (87 Chapters.)

The Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form at three o'clock P. M..

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, September 7th, 1899, were read and approved.

By-Laws were received from Chapters Nos. 91, 257 and 282, and Amendments to By-Laws from Chapters Nos. 21, 175, 186 and 217, which were referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

The Committee on Finance presented the following Quarterly Report:

PHILADELPHIA, December 1, 1899.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Companion Thomas R. Patton, and the books of the M. E. Grand Secretary Companion Charles Cary, from September 1st, 1899 to November 20th, 1899, and find them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing :—

Balance on hand September 1st, 1899, 3,858 86

RECEIPTS.

From Chapters and Mark Lodge,	1,198 75	
Dispensation ,	1 00	
Sale of Paper,	10 85	
Interest on Masonic Loan,	400 00	
Interest on Deposits,	35 62	1,646 22
		<hr/>
		5,505 08

EXPENDITURES.

Expenses of M. E. Grand High Priest,	1,393 70	
Rent,	750 00	
Masonic Home,	500 00	
Salaries,	427 50	
Printing, Postage and Stationery,	93 70	
Clothing and Furniture,	22 50	3,187 40
		<hr/>
Balance in hands of M. E. Grand Treasurer,		\$2,317 68

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed)

EZRA S BARTLETT,
M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,
CHARLES W. PACKER,
JACOB W. JACKSON,
Committee.

The Committee on Finance presented the following
Annual Report:

PHILADELPHIA, December 1, 1899.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

COMPANIONS :—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Companion Thomas R. Patton, and the books of the M. E. Grand Secretary, Companion Charles Cary, from November 20th, 1898, to November 20th, 1899, and find them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing :—

Balance on hand November 20th, 1898, 1,984 45

RECEIPTS.

From Chapters and Mark Lodges,	7,096 50	
Warrant Fee,	100 00	
Constitutions, Dispensations, etc.,	32 85	
Interest on Masonic Loan,	800 00	
Interest on Deposits,	105 33	8,134 68
		<hr/>
Total		10,119 13

EXPENDITURES.

Expenses of M. E. Grand High Priest,	2,000 00	
Expenses of D. D. Grand High Priests,	529 91	
Rent,	2,250 00	
Salaries,	1,710 00	
Masonic Home of Pennsylvania,	500 00	
Printing, Postage and Stationery,	696 54	
Clothing and Furniture,	75 00	
Care of Organ,	40 00	7,801 45

Balance in hands of M. E. Grand Treasurer,	\$2,317 68
Due from Chapters,	\$560 80

We have examined the investments held by the M. E. Grand Treasurer, amounting to Twenty Thousand Dollars, (\$20,000.00) all of which are Bonds of the 4% Masonic Loan, in the name of "The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter," of Pennsylvania, and found them correct.

The Committee on Finance presents the following estimate of the Receipts and Expenditures for the year ending November 20th, 1900.

Balance on hand,	2,317 68
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RECEIPTS.

Dues and Fees from Chapters and Mark Lodges,	6,600 00	
Interest on Masonic Loan,	800 00	
Sale of Constitutions, Dispensations, etc.,	25 00	7,425 00
		9,742 68

EXPENDITURES.

Expenses of M. E. Grand High Priest,	2,000 00	
Expenses of D. D. Grand High Priests,	850 00	
Masonic Home of Pennsylvania,	500 00	
Salaries :—Grand Secretary,	1,500 00	
Grand Tyler,	150 00	
Messenger,	60 00	1,710 00
Clothing, Furniture and Miscellaneous,	500 00	
Printing, Postage and Stationery,	1,200 00	
Rent to December 31st, 1899,	750 00	
Rent to September 30th, 1900,	1,125 00	
Care of Organ,	40 00	8,675 00
Estimated Balance,		\$1,067 68

We offer the following Resolution :—

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand High Priest be, and he is hereby authorized to draw his warrants on the Grand Treasurer for the amounts named in the foregoing estimate as they may become due and payable.

Fraternally submitted,
(Signed,)

EZRA S. BARTLETT,
M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,
CHARLES W. PACKER,
JACOB W. JACKSON,
Committee on Finance.

The Report was received as read, and the accompanying Resolution was, on motion, unanimously adopted.

The Committee on By-Laws submitted the following Report, which was received, and the Resolutions attached thereto were, on motion, adopted:

PHILADELPHIA, December 7th, 1899.

To the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

Your Committee on By-Laws report that they have examined the By-Laws and Amendments referred to them, and offer the following Resolutions :—

Resolved, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 91 be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 257 be amended as follows :—

Art. IV, Sec. 3.—Strike out the words “Board of Trustees” and insert “M. E. High Priest for the use of the Chapter.”

Art. IV, Sec. 4.—Strike out “Board of Trustees” and insert “M. E. High Priest for the use of the Chapter.”

Art. VI.—Strike out “subject to the provisions of Art. V, Sec. 1.”

Art. IX.—Strike out “or one who has paid full dues for twenty years,” and that, as so amended, they be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapter 282 be amended as follows :—

Art. IV, Sec. 6.—Strike out “their successors and assigns.”

Art. IX, Sec. 1.—Strike out “five dollars” and insert “fifteen dollars.” and that, as so amended, they be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 21, 175 and 217 be approved.

Resolved, that the proposed Amendment to Article VIII, Sec. 1, of the By-Laws of Chapter No. 186 be not approved.

Resolved, That the proposed Amendment to Article IX, of the By-Laws of Chapter No. 186 be approved, and that said Chapter be directed to further amend its By-Laws to comply with the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Chapter.

Fraternally Submitted,

(Signed,)

EDGAR A. TENNIS,

for the Committee.

The Committee on Correspondence reported "progress."

The Committee on Printing and Publishing reported as follows:

PHILADELPHIA, December 7th, 1899.

To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of

The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

COMPANIONS :—Your Committee on Printing and Publishing reports the expenditure during the year of \$696.54, which includes the printing and binding of the "Proceedings of 1898" and the expressage and postage for their proper distribution.

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed)

H. I. MCINTIRE, JR.,

Chairman.

This being the time fixed by the Constitution for the election of Grand Officers to serve for the ensuing Masonic Year beginning on St. John the Evangelist's Day next, the M. E. High Priest was pleased to appoint tellers; who having reported, the M. E. High Priest declared the following named Companions duly elected:

Companion MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS, *M. E. Grand High Priest.*

" EDWARD B. SPENCER, *M. E. Grand King.*

" HENRY OSCAR KLINE, *M. E. Grand Scribe.*

" THOMAS R. PATTON, *M. E. Grand Treasurer.*

" CHARLES CARY, *M. E. Grand Secretary.*

The proposed Amendment to the Constitution, offered at the Quarterly Communication held December 8th, 1898, was considered, and, after amendment, was adopted, as follows :

Resolved, That Article IV, Section 2, of the Constitution be amended to read as follows :

"Section 2. The Communications of The Grand Chapter shall begin at seven o'clock in the evening, except the Quarterly Communication in December, which shall begin at two o'clock in the afternoon."

Communications were received from several Grand Chapters, announcing the death of honored Companions, as follows :—

From the Grand R. A. Chapter of Texas, announcing the death, on June 14, 1899, of Companion HASTON TWOMEY, Past Grand High Priest.

From the Grand R. A. Chapter of Michigan, announcing the death, on August 17, 1899, of Companion CHARLES R. BAGG, Past Grand High Priest.

From the Grand Chapter of R. A. Masons of Missouri, announcing the death, on September 2, 1899, of Companion JAMES BREWSTER AUSTIN, Past Grand High Priest.

From the M. E. Grand Chapter of R. A. Masons of Connecticut, announcing the death of Companion DWIGHT PHELPS, Past Grand High Priest, on September 6, 1899.

From the Grand Chapter of R. A. Masons of Missouri, announcing the death of Companion ALVIN HAYNIE, Past Grand High Priest, on October 2, 1899.

Missives were received appointing Companion Conrad B. Day as representative of the Grand R. A. Chapter of Virginia, and Companion Robert J. Linden as representative of the Grand R. A. Chapter of New Hampshire, near this Grand Chapter.

On motion the said companions were separately received and acknowledged as such representatives.

The Grand Chapter was closed in peace at five o'clock, P. M.

CHARLES CARY,
Grand Secretary.

ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION,

HELD AT

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, ST. JOHN'S DAY,
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, A. D. 1899, A. L. 2429.

PRESENT :

- Comp. MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS, . *M. E. Grand High Priest.*
 " EDWARD B. SPENCER, *M. E. Grand King.*
 " HENRY OSCAR KLINE, *M. Grand Scribe.*
 " THOMAS R. PATTON, *M. E. Grand Treasurer.*
 " CHARLES CARY, *M. E. Grand Secretary.*
 " THOMAS ROSE, *D. D. Grand High Priest.*
 " REV. THOMPSON P. EGE, . *as Grand Chaplain.*
 " EDWIN H. COANE, *Grand Captain of the Host.*
 " CARL A. SUNDSTROM, *Grand Principal Sojourner.*
 " FRANCIS H. HEMPERLEY, . *Grand Royal Arch Captain.*
 " FRANKLIN P. MASON, *Grand Master of the Third Vail.*
 " ADAM H. SCHMEHL, *Grand Master of the Second Vail.*
 " BENJAMIN EISEMAN, *Grand Master of the First Vail.*
 " GEORGE B. WELLS, *Grand Marshal.*
 " JOHN O'DONNELL, *Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*
 " FORREST E. GORDON, *Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*
 " FRANK M. HIGHLEY, *Grand Pursuivant.*
 " WILLIAM B. JOSLYN, *Grand Tyler.*

Past Grand High Priests.—M. E. Comps. GEORGE E. WAGNER, HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., JAMES S. BARBER, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, EDGAR A. TENNIS, EZRA S. BARTLETT.

Grand Representatives.

- Comp. THOMAS R. PATTON, of Grand Chapters of Canada and Scotland.
 " JAMES S. BARBER, of Grand Chapters of Delaware and North Carolina.
 " DANIEL W. HUTCHIN, of Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.
 " GEORGE E. WAGNER, of Grand Mark Lodge of England.
 " H. OSCAR KLINE, of Grand Chapter of Florida.
 " GEORGE B. WELLS, of Grand Chapter of Illinois.

Comp. FRANK M. HIGHLEY, of Grand Chapter of Indiana.

“ SAMUEL W. WRAY, of Grand Chapter of Kansas.

“ EDGAR A. TENNIS, of Grand Chapter of Kentucky.

“ J. HENRY WILLIAMS, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.

“ GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., of Grand Chapter of Nebraska.

“ EZRA S. BARTLETT, of Grand Chapter of New Jersey.

“ CHARLES CARY, of Grand Chapter of New York.

“ MICHAEL W. JACOBS, of Grand Chapter of North Dakota.

“ EDWARD B. SPENCER, of Grand Chapter of Oregon.

“ JOSEPH M. WIATT, of Grand Chapter of South Carolina.

“ HIBBERT P. JOHN, of Grand Chapter of Tennessee.

“ WILLIAM A. SINN, of Grand Chapter of Texas.

“ LOUIS WAGNER, of Grand Chapter of Vermont.

“ CONRAD B. DAY, of Grand Chapter of Virginia.

Chapters Nos. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 161, 175, 183, 190, 202, 208, 220, 226, 232, 233, 237, 238, 240, 243, 245, 247, 248, 250, 251, 255, 256, 266, 271, 272. (29 Chapters.)

The Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form at seven o'clock P. M.

By-Laws were received from Chapter No. 237, and Amendment to By-Laws from Chapter No. 240, which were referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

A Communication was received from Chapter No. 189, asking permission to receive a *fourth petition* from Brother D. S. K., whereupon, on motion, it was

Resolved, that permission be granted under the usual restrictions.

The Committee on By-Laws presented the following Report; which was received, and the accompanying Resolutions were, on motion adopted:—

PHILADELPHIA, December 27, 1899.

To the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on By-Laws have examined the By-Laws and Amendment to By-Laws, submitted to them and offer the following:

Resolved, That the code of By-Laws submitted by Excelsior Chapter, No. 237, be amended by striking out of Art. IV, Sec. 6, the words "their successors and assigns," and that, as so amended, they be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed Amendment to By-Laws of Palestine Chapter, No. 240, be approved.

(Signed,)

EDGAR A. TENNIS,

Chairman.

General Returns were received from a number of Chapters, which were ordered to be entered and filed.

Communications were received from Grand Chapters announcing the death of distinguished Companions, as follows:—

The Grand Chapter of R. A. Masons, of Georgia, announcing the death, on September 26, 1899, of Companion ORLANDO McLENDON, Deputy Grand High Priest.

The Grand Chapter of R. A. Masons, of North Carolina, announcing the death, on November 28, 1899, of Companion ROBERT BRANK VANCE, Past Deputy Grand High Priest.

The Grand Chapter of R. A. Masons, of Missouri, announcing the death, on December 15, 1899, of Companion LEE A. HALL, Past Grand High Priest.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS, then delivered the following

ADDRESS :

COMPANIONS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER :—A year has swiftly passed since I was by your suffrages invested with the highest station in this Grand Chapter and, it is now, in accordance with a long established and excellent custom, my duty to briefly review, for your information and the information of the members of the Craft generally, the more important matters which have transpired during my administration.

And first of all I congratulate you upon the very prosperous condition of Royal Arch Masonry in this Jurisdiction. Without the Jurisdiction, fraternal and cordial relations with our sister Grand Chapters continue to exist, and within it peace and harmony and the best of feeling among the members of the Craft prevail. Our usual and healthy annual increase in membership of 500 and upwards has been fully kept up, and the membership of our subordinate Chapters is, at this date, not far from 19,000. The number of Chapters remains the same, Newtown Chapter, No. 229, having ceased labor and a strong and vigorous Chapter, McKeesport, No. 282, having been constituted. Financially this Grand Chapter never was more prosperous. Besides possessing a considerable invested fund, we have easily and promptly met all our expenses, have continued our annual appropriation of \$500.00 to that very laudable charity, the Masonic Home, and have a balance in the Treasury. The details of these matters I do not now go into, because they appear elsewhere, either in this report or in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter.

THE WORK.

In my address a year ago I spoke of the great progress which had in recent years been made in securing and preserving in the subordinate Chapters uniformity and accuracy in the work. That this is a task of no little difficulty is apparent when the number of our Chapters is considered, and it is remembered that in this Jurisdiction we are firm in our rejection of Monitors and printed Rituals and insist upon oral communication of the work as we received it from our fathers as the only method of instruction. I am pleased to know that during the past year some further progress has been made, but, as much yet remains to be done, I have determined to send, without unnecessary delay, special instructors into some of the localities where instruction is most needed. For the rest I shall rely, as heretofore, upon the intelligent and conscientious labors of my District Deputies, who I believe are all fully competent and are willing and ready to give all instruction that can be reasonably required of them.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

During the year I have appointed the following Companions representatives of this Grand Chapter:

James Ridler, near the Grand Chapter of Minnesota.

Robert W. Furnas, near the Grand Chapter of Nebraska.

Jacob M. Storer, near the Grand Chapter of New York.

R. M. Ferguson, near the Grand Chapter of Virginia.

Lewis C. Massey, near the Grand Chapter of Florida.

And the following Companions have been appointed and received and acknowledged as the representatives of the Grand Chapters named near this Grand Chapter:

Charles K. Francis, of the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin.

Henry Oscar Kline, of the Grand Chapter of Florida.

Conrad B. Day, of the Grand Chapter of Virginia.

Robert J. Linden, of the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.

WAIVER OF JURISDICTION.

At the request of the M. E. High Priests of New York, New Jersey and Maryland, I have waived the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter and granted permission for Chapters in those Jurisdictions to receive and act upon petitions for the Capitular Degrees in a number of cases in which the applicants were residents of this State, but members of Lodges in other jurisdictions, and similar courtesy has been extended to this Grand Chapter by the M. E. Grand High Priest of New Jersey. But, following the precedents in this Grand Chapter, of which I entirely approve, I have refused similar requests for waiver of jurisdiction in several cases, where the applicants were not only residents of this State, but were also members of Lodges within it and had not been "passed to the chair" in accordance with the Pennsylvania usage.

INVITATIONS.

I was, with great regret, compelled to decline the courteous invitation of the M. E. Grand High Priest of Massachusetts to attend the one hundredth anniversary of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts which was celebrated in Boston on October 24. In replying to his communication I however took occasion to express the sincere hope that the Grand Chapters of the two Pioneer Masonic Jurisdictions in America, —whatever may be their individual claims to slight priority— may long continue in their present relations of friendship and fraternal regard.

I was also compelled to decline with regret an invitation to be present at the Forty-sixth Annual Convention of the Grand Chapter of Iowa.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted the following dispensations; to Chapters Nos. 43, 175 and 194 to elect a Treasurer; to Chapters Nos. 197 and 262 to elect a Secretary, the vacancy in each of these cases being caused either by death or refusal to be installed; and to McKeesport Chapter, No. 282, to elect all its officers at the stated meeting on December 28. In this case such action was rendered necessary by a change in the By-Laws of the Chapter, approved by the Grand Chapter at the December Quarterly Communication, whereby the date of the stated meetings was so changed as to render impossible the holding the annual election before St. John's Day.

I have refused dispensations to elect Secretaries of Chapters in several cases, in which the Secretary, who had already been installed, found it inconvenient to serve during the full year, without however removing from the Jurisdiction.

I have refused a dispensation to hold an election to fill the office of King, the vacancy having been caused by death after installation. The application for this dispensation appears to have been made in the misapprehension that the provision of the Constitution of 1883, which permitted a special election to fill a vacancy in any of the elective offices, was still in force. I am however compelled to hold that, under the present Constitution, when a vacancy occurs in the office of either High Priest or King, the King or Scribe, as the case may be, has the constitutional right to succeed to the vacant station, of which right he cannot be deprived by any action of the Chapter.

Newtown Chapter, No. 229.

In consequence of the destruction by fire of the Hall, and in it the Warrant of Constitution, of Newtown Chapter, No. 229, I issued, on March 23d, a dispensation to that Chapter to con-

tinue labor until the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Chapter in June, when I reported my action to this body and, having thereupon received authority to act further in the premises, I renewed said dispensation until Quarterly Communication in September, in order to give the members of the Chapter an opportunity to wind up its affairs. At the September Quarterly Communication was presented a petition from that Chapter, requesting that it be permitted to cease labor, which request was granted, and Newtown Chapter appears no longer upon the list of the constituent Chapters of this Grand Chapter.

McKeesport Chapter, No. 282

At the Quarterly Communication in June was presented to this Grand Chapter the petition of a large number of Royal Arch Masons residing in McKeesport, praying for a Warrant of Constitution empowering them to meet as a regular Chapter at that place, to be called "McKeesport Chapter, No. 282." The petition having been referred to the Grand Officers with power to act, and their action having been favorable, I issued a dispensation to Companion Henry Oscar Kline, M. E. Grand Scribe, authorizing him to constitute the new Chapter, which duty he very satisfactorily performed on July 6, 1899. This new Chapter has begun its life under very auspicious circumstances and has every prospect of a vigorous and prosperous career. The town of McKeesport is a large and important one, the number of charter members was 59 and in the short time which has elapsed since the Constitution of the Chapter its membership has increased to 100. The members of the new Chapter are active and zealous, and I think this Grand Chapter has every reason to be congratulated upon this latest addition to our large and constantly increasing family.

DECISIONS.

I have been called upon to make a number of decisions and to answer many inquiries, some of which, perhaps, should not have been made. While I do not wish to encourage unnecessary inquiries, I can readily understand why a conscientious Chapter officer prefers to have his doubts resolved by higher authority. In Freemasonry "whatever is not permitted is prohibited," and where there is real doubt as to the legality of a proceeding it is always better to seek authoritative decision. Such aid, however, should be sought only after a careful study of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter and the published decisions of the Grand High Priests. But when these means of information have been exhausted the Grand Officers will always be glad to answer inquiries concerning matters of practical importance to the Craft.

The most important decisions during the past year are the following :

1. The use of postal cards in sending Chapter notices is not permitted.

2. Upon a favorable report of a Committee of Inquiry, a motion to receive the report, discharge the committee and ballot for the candidate is not only unnecessary, but improper. Under Sec. 4, Article XVII of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter it is clearly the duty of the High Priest, upon such report, to "order a ballot to be taken on the petition," and it is equally clear that, even if such motion be made and determined in the negative, it would still be his duty to order a ballot, unless permission to withdraw the petition has been granted by a majority vote of all the members present.

3. When a member of a Chapter who has been suspended from his Master Mason's Lodge for non-payment of dues, and has thereby become suspended from his Chapter, is restored to membership in the Lodge from which he was suspended, he is *ipse facto* restored to membership in his Chapter ;

and it is immaterial that he has not been restored to membership in his Lodge in the manner provided in the Ahiman Rezon within one year from the date of his suspension therein and has been compelled to apply by petition for election to membership.

4. When, upon an inquiry made of the Chapter nearest to the place of residence of a petitioner for the degrees and membership, such Chapter replies that there is Masonic objection to the Chapter to which the petition is addressed acting thereon, the Chapter to which the petition is addressed is the Chapter in which the petitioner is rejected, and the date of the stated meeting of said Chapter, at which such reply is received and entered upon the minutes, is the date of his rejection, from which date is to be computed the time within which a second petition may not be presented. In such case, if the rejected petitioner subsequently applies to the Chapter in which such Masonic objection has been asserted, the usual inquiry must be made of the Chapter to which his former petition was addressed and in which he was so rejected.

5. A Master Mason who since becoming a Master Mason has lost the thumb and the first and second fingers of his right hand is not eligible to receive the degrees in the Chapter.

6. A Companion, whose resignation has been accepted by his Chapter, or who has been restored to good Masonic standing after suspension or expulsion, desiring a Chapter Certificate of such "good Masonic standing," must make application therefor either in person or in writing.

7. While it is desirable that a Companion receiving a Chapter Certificate should sign his name on the margin thereof in the presence of one or more of the officers of the Chapter, it cannot be held to be in all cases necessary for him to do so.

8. A Chapter cannot remit the dues of a member who has been suspended for non-payment thereof and then restore him either to membership or to good Masonic standing. He can be so restored only upon payment of all arrears of dues.

9. (a) The work of the Chapter, including the conferring of the degrees, is in all respects in the control of the High Priest. He is responsible for it and should see that it is promptly done. He may, if he sees fit, himself confer all the degrees, or he may call to his station for that purpose any properly qualified Companion, whether an officer or member of his own or of any other Chapter. But the Companion who has thus been called to the station of High Priest is there as his representative and is subject in all things to his directions, if he be present—with the qualification, of course, that in such case the Companion occupying the station should rather surrender it than obey any direction that is clearly illegal; such, for example, as the omission of any part of the work or lectures required by the Grand Chapter.

(b) The practice, which obtains in many of the Chapters, of dividing the work between the three principal officers, and assigning to each the conferring of a particular degree, is an excellent one and should be applied wherever practicable, as it tends to encourage the officers in the acquisition of the work prescribed by the Grand Chapter and to stimulate them in their efforts for the welfare of the Chapter, as well as to create interest and better feeling on the part of all the officers and members. While, therefore, it is within the power and discretion of the High Priest to follow this custom or not, as he deems best for the interest of the Chapter, his action in so doing is not to be put upon the ground of "courtesy," but rather upon the ground of justice to the officers and to the Chapter itself.

(c) The High Priest is responsible, not only for the work, but also for the good order of the Chapter, and this responsibility does not cease when he temporarily places another Companion in his station. Therefore, while it is customary—and properly so, because it conduces to the orderly performance of the work—for the Companion occupying the station of the High Priest to give formal directions as to the admission and departure of Companions to and from the Chapter hall, the Chapter is still under the control and subject to the authority of the High Priest, who may resume his station at any time or may give such directions as appear to him necessary for the orderly conduct of the work and the good order of the Chapter.

(d) The practice of permitting Companions to enter and depart from the Chapter hall during the actual work of conferring degrees should be discouraged. Occasions may arise which render a departure from the rule necessary in particular cases, but its relaxation should rest rather in the sound discretion of the High Priest than in that of his temporary representative; and care should always be taken that the work is not disturbed thereby. It need hardly be added that it is expected that the High Priest will in the conduct of these matters, as well as in the conduct of all the affairs of the Chapter, use a wise discretion and will never exercise any of his powers either arbitrarily or offensively.

NEAREST CHAPTER.

The question: What is the nearest Chapter for the purposes of the inquiry required by Sec. 9, Article XVII of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter? is one of constant occurrence in the office of the Grand Secretary, and the proper method of ascertaining it is a matter of great practical importance. When I entered upon my administration I found that the decisions of some of my predecessors were in direct conflict,

and while I might have added to the uncertainty and confusion by enforcing my own private views of the matter during my term of office, I considered it proper to have the subject passed upon by the Grand Chapter itself, in order that this vexed but important question might be, if possible, definitively settled. Accordingly, at the March Quarterly Communication, I submitted the whole matter to the Committee on Jurisprudence to consider and report upon to the Grand Chapter. Their report, which was presented at the June Quarterly Communication, recommended adherence to the rule of direct measurement, and this report was adopted by the Grand Chapter. We have thus definitively settled—at least, until the Grand Chapter in its wisdom shall see fit to adopt another—the rule that the nearest Chapter is to be ascertained by measurement “on a straight line without regard to roads or lines of communication”—a rule which is not subject to the fluctuating circumstances of varying convenience of routes of travel or changing railroad time tables, is easily applied in almost every possible case, and, whatever may be said of the result of its application in isolated cases, furnishes in general a practical method of fulfilling the purpose of the inquiry required by the Constitution—*i. e.*, ascertaining, in the neighborhood in which he is presumed to be best known, the personal fitness of an applicant for advancement.

Another phase of the question: What is the nearest Chapter? has been presented to me for decision. There are in this State at least several cities having large territorial areas and having within their limits a number of Chapters, and the question was whether, in ascertaining the “nearest Chapter,” measurement is to be made to the nearest corporate limits of such city or to the place of meeting of the nearest Chapter within such limits. The facts of the case are these: The borough of Braddock is distant from McKeesport about four miles in an air line, and, while distant only about two miles from

the corporate limits of the city of Pittsburg, it is distant, in an air line, about five miles from the place of meeting of the nearest Chapter within those limits, and seven or eight miles from the place of meeting of the other Chapters in that city. Upon these facts I decided that, within the meaning of the Constitutional provision, the McKeesport Chapter is the Chapter nearest to Braddock, and that Pittsburg Chapters receiving petitions for the degree and membership from residents of Braddock must make the required inquiry of McKeesport Chapter. Corporate limits, for the purpose of such inquiry, are not recognized by the Constitution, except in the single instance provided for by Sec. 11, Article XVII, which dispenses with such inquiry as between Chapters held in the same city, borough or town; and this exception appears to prove the rule, as it was evidently considered necessary to insert this provision in order to relieve Chapters meeting at different places within the same corporate limits from the necessity of making frequent inquiries of each other. But, at all events, the Constitutional provision relating to inquiry of the "*nearest Chapter*" being clearly mandatory, and the uniform rule of air-line measurement of distance having been adopted as the most convenient and workable for determining the necessity of inquiry and where it should be made, there appears to be no good reason why that rule should be departed from in this particular case. The question involved may at first sight appear nice and somewhat technical, but I understand that it is of considerable importance to a number of Chapters, hence I have dwelt upon it at some length. I am informed that, as between Fernwood Chapter and the Chapters in the city of Philadelphia, my predecessors, although they did not record any formal decision on the point, applied the same rule which I have held to be applicable in this case.

Another matter closely connected with this subject has frequently been referred to by my predecessors, but does not yet appear to be thoroughly understood in all the Chapters in this Jurisdiction—viz.: Upon what ground can Masonic objection to action on a petition by the Chapter to which it is addressed be asserted in the Chapter inquired of? This question has been answered many times in no uncertain way, and yet I have reason to believe that there is still prevalent in many quarters an idea that Chapters have some kind of jurisdiction over “material,” as it is sometimes called, within certain territorial limits, which they may surrender or not as they please. Nothing could be more erroneous. Jurisdiction in Pennsylvania belongs to the Grand Chapter alone and not in any sense to any subordinate Chapter. An applicant for the degrees and membership may apply to any Chapter he desires to enter, without regard to where he resides, and the whole purpose of the inquiry is to determine and have answered, in the neighborhood in which he is presumed to be best known, one question and but one—viz.: Is he fit for advancement, mentally, morally and physically? If he is not, the Chapter to which his petition is addressed should not be allowed to proceed. If he is, the Chapter inquired of has no right to say otherwise, however reluctant its members may be to see applicants who might be expected to knock at its doors go elsewhere. The assertion of Masonic objection where none really exists is clearly subversive of the rights of other Chapters, and when it is wilfully made cannot be too severely censured. I may add that when it has clearly appeared that such objection was asserted on the assumed ground of jurisdiction, my predecessors have uniformly directed the inquiring Chapter to proceed upon the petition notwithstanding the objection, and, if occasion should arise, the present Grand High Priest will not be slow to follow their example.

EXEMPLIFICATION OF THE WORK.

During the past year the several Capitular Degrees have been exemplified in the Grand Chapter by members of the Temple School of Instruction under the very painstaking and intelligent direction of Companion Carl A. Sundstrom, as follows :

- The degree of Mark Master Mason at the Quarterly Communication in March.

The Degree of Most Excellent Master Mason at the Quarterly Communication in June, and

The Degree of Royal Arch Mason at the Quarterly Communications in September.

The work of these Companions, rendered after careful and repeated private rehearsals, received from the most competent judges, as it merited, unstinted praise for its accuracy and effective rendition, and I desire to place upon record my sincere thanks to them for their valuable services.

TEMPLE SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION.

I can not allow this opportunity to pass without highly commending the valuable service to the Craft performed by the Temple School of Instruction. Its Instructors are men of experience, accurately acquainted with the Capitular Work as approved by this Grand Chapter, and well qualified to impart it to others, and their faithful labor and painstaking zeal not only furnish a good example to the members of the Craft, but largely contribute, I believe, to keep the work of the Chapters meeting in the Temple uniform and accurate. While the ordering of and the preparation for the work of the Chapter is properly within the control of the High Priest of each Chapter, I recommend that, as far as the way appears clear to do

so, the rehearsals of the several Chapters meeting in the Temple be conducted in the School of Instruction. The room in which it meets is well fitted for the purpose and the instructors are able and willing to render valuable assistance, and the course recommended will, if pursued, I have no doubt be of great mutual advantage to both the Chapters and the School.

THE GRAND LODGE LIBRARY.

The Library of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, located in this Masonic Temple, deserves the attention and the interest of the members of the Craft, and I deem it not inappropriate that I should refer to it in this address. The studiously inclined Mason has not completed his Masonic education when he has learned the Work, and carefully studied the Ahiman Rezon and the Constitution of the Grand Chapter. He knows little and has deprived himself of a source of great pleasure and profit unless he has studied Masonic History. Indeed, without considerable knowledge of it, he can not fully understand either Masonic Work or Masonic Jurisprudence. The field however is a large one and few students are able to bring together in private libraries all the books desirable or even necessary for thorough or satisfactory work in it, many of the books on the subject being rare and scarcely obtainable. I know of no place where a Pennsylvania student or inquirer can so conveniently or so satisfactorily carry on his work or obtain his desired information as in the library referred to, and feeling, as I do, that a study of Masonic History by members of the Craft is certain to widen and deepen their interest both in the Lodge and in the Chapter, I should be very glad if the Grand Chapter could see its way clear to aid in the support of at least that branch of the Library which relates to Capitular Masonry.

To this I may add that the study of the History of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania is itself an interesting and profitable one. The oldest Grand Chapter in America, it has a history of which we all feel proud and which should be familiar to every Royal Arch Mason in this Jurisdiction. To those who are interested or will become interested in this subject, I have to say that the Grand Secretary has on hand copies of the Reprint of the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter from its organization to 1864, which he will be glad to send on application to those who really want and will use them.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, Companions of the Grand Chapter, I heartily thank you for the great honor you have done me in again electing me to this exalted station. I am conscious that my administration has not been all I desired or all I hoped for, but with my experience of one term, I shall endeavor to make it more efficient in the next.

So much of the Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on Thursday, December 7, 1899, as relates to the election of Grand Officers was read.

All the Companions present who had not received the Order of High-Priesthood having retired,

Companion MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS was installed as *Most Excellent Grand High Priest of The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging*; was duly proclaimed as such, and received the salutations of the Craft.

The Companions who had retired were readmitted, when the following Grand Officers were severally installed, and were each duly proclaimed, and received the salutations of the Craft :

- Comp. EDWARD B. SPENCER *M. E. Grand King.*
- “ HENRY OSCAR KLINE *M. E. Grand Scribe.*
- “ THOMAS R. PATTON *M. E. Grand Treasurer.*
- “ CHARLES CARY *M. E. Grand Secretary.*

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the following appointments for the present Masonic Year, commencing this day :

District Deputy Grand High Priests.

The County of Philadelphia will be under the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Michael William Jacobs.

1. Comp. John McKain, of Pittsburgh, for the Counties of Allegheny and Washington.
2. Comp. William C. Thompson, of Butler, for the Counties of Beaver and Butler.
3. Comp. Curtis G. Campbell, of Johnstown, for the Counties of Greene, Fayette, Westmoreland, Somerset and Cambria.
4. Comp. John B. Sprenkel, of York, for the Counties of Lancaster, Adams and York.
5. Comp. Stephen H. Appleton, of Media, for the County of Delaware and Chapter No. 223 at Oxford.
6. Comp. John H. Shopp, of Harrisburg, for the Counties of Dauphin, Cumberland and Franklin.

7. Comp. T. Darlington Buckwalter, of Pottstown, for Chapters Nos. 190, 262 and 271, of Montgomery County, and No. 198, of Chester County.

8. Comp. Albert R. Hoover, of Reading, for the Counties of Berks and Lebanon.

9. Comp. Christian A. Seidel, of Pottsville, for the County of Schuylkill.

10. Comp. Daniel Z. Walker, of Allentown, for the Counties of Lehigh and Carbon, and Chapter No. 216, at Bethlehem.

11. Comp. Frank Deitrick, of Wilkes-Barre, for the County of Luzerne.

12. Comp. James H. Coddington, of Towanda, for the Counties of Bradford, Sullivan and Tioga.

13. Comp. Charles E. Cooper, of Oil City, for the Counties of Warren, Venango and Forest.

14. Joseph J. Lingle, of Emporium, for the Counties of McKean, Potter, Cameron and Elk.

15. Comp. Daniel B. Else, of Williamsport, for the Counties of Lycoming, Clinton and Centre.

16. Comp. Harry M. Chenoweth, of Sunbury, for the County of Northumberland.

17. Comp. Martin L. Shaffner, of Huntingdon, for the Counties of Mifflin, Bedford, Huntingdon, Juniata, Fulton, Perry, Clearfield and Blair.

18. Comp. Peter Barkey, of Erie, for the Counties of Erie and Crawford.

19. Comp. John C. Wallace, of New Castle, for the Counties of Mercer and Lawrence.

20. Comp. John W. Farnsworth, of Danville, for the Counties of Montour and Columbia.

21. Comp. Cyrus H. Blood, of Brookville, for the Counties of Jefferson, Clarion and Armstrong.

22. Comp. Ellis H. Doan, of Coatesville, for the County of Chester, except Chapter No. 198, at Phoenixville, and Chapter No. 223, at Oxford.

23. Comp. Edward R. W. Searle, of Susquehanna, for the Counties of Susquehanna and Wayne, except Chapter No. 180, at Montrose.

24. Comp. Thomas Rose, of Ambler, for Bucks County and Chapters Nos. 220 and 245 of Montgomery County.

25. Comp. Samuel S. Yohe, of Easton, for the Counties of Northampton and Monroe, except Chapter 216, at Bethlehem.

26. Comp. Reuben A. Zimmerman, of Scranton, for the Counties of Lackawanna and Wyoming, and Chapter No. 180, at Montrose.

Grand Chaplains.

Comp. Rev. Henry S. Getz, of Philadelphia.

“ Rev. Charles M. Stock, of Hanover.

“ Rev. Thomas B. Angell, of Harrisburg.

“ Rev. Benjamin F. Delo, of Clarion.

“ Rev. William B. Chalfant, of Philadelphia.

“ Rev. Will H. Hiller, of Wilkes-Barre.

“ Rev. Horace F. Fuller, of Philadelphia.

“ Rev. Thompson P. Ege, of Gettysburg.

Grand Captain of the Host.

Comp. Edwin H. Coane, of Chapter No. 240.

Grand Principal Sojourner.

Comp. Carl A. Sundstrom, of Chapter No. 175.

Grand Royal Arch Captain.

Comp. Francis H. Hemperley, of Chapter No. 248.

Grand Master of Third Vail.

Comp. Franklin P. Mason, of Chapter No. 243.

Grand Master of Second Vail.

Comp. Adam H. Schmehl, of Chapter No. 237.

Grand Master of First Vail.

Comp. Benjamin Eiseman, of Chapter No. 183.

Grand Marshal.

Comp. George B. Wells, of Chapter No. 52.

Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.

Comp. John O'Donnel, of Chapter No. 91.

Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies

Comp. Forrest E. Gordon, of Chapter No. 169.

Grand Pursuivant.

Comp. Frank M. Highley, of Chapter No. 183.

Grand Tyler.

Comp. Wm. B. Joslyn, of Chapter No. 175.

Committee on Jurisprudence.

M. E. Comp. George W. Kendrick, Jr., P. G. H. P.,

“ “ Hibbert P. John, P. G. H. P.,

“ “ George E. Wagner, P. G. H. P.,

“ “ James S. Barber, P. G. H. P.

In conjunction with the Most Excellent Grand High Priest.

Committee on Appeals.

M. E. Comp. Alexander H. Morgan, P. G. H. P.,

“ Edward Perry,

“ George J. Benner,

“ J. Henry Williams,

“ Richard E. Cochran.

Committee on Finance.

M. E. Comp. Ezra S. Bartlett, P. G. H. P.,

“ M. Richards Mucklé,

“ Charles W. Packer,

“ William M. Donaldson,

“ Jacob W. Jackson.

Committee on By-Laws.

M. E. Comp. Edgar A. Tennis, P. G. H. P.,

“ “ Richard M. Johnson, P. G. H. P.

“ Philip C. Shaffer,

“ Joseph M. Wiatt,

“ Louis M. Wagner.

Committee on Correspondence.

M. E. Comp. Matthias H. Henderson, P. G. H. P.,

“ Stockton Bates,

“ J. Simpson Africa,

“ Joshua L. Lyte,

“ James H. Coddington.

Committee on Charity.

Comp. Conrad B. Day,
“ N. Ferree Lightner,
“ Robert L. Holliday,
“ William S. Semple,
“ William J. Diehl.

Committee on Printing and Publishing.

Comp. Harry I. McIntire, Jr.,
“ Alexander McCune,
“ John T. Beardsley,
“ James W. R. Washington,
“ Jacob Glaser.

The Grand Chapter was closed in Peace at eight o'clock and thirty-five minutes, P. M.

CHARLES CARY,
Grand Secretary.

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS
OF
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter
of Pennsylvania.

- 1795, WILLIAM BALL.†
1796—1797, WILLIAM MOORE SMITH.†
1798—1802, JONATHAN BAYARD SMITH.†
1802—1805, ISRAEL ISRAEL.†
1806—1813, JAMES MILNOR.†
1814, RICHARD TYBOUT.†
1815, SAMUEL F. BRADFORD.†
1816—1817, WALTER KERR.†
1818—1821, BAYSE NEWCOMB.†
1822—1823, JOSIAH RANDALL.†
1824—1825, MICHAEL NISBET.†
1826, JOHN STEELE, JR.†
1827, TRISTRAM B. FREEMAN.†
1828, JOSEPH S. RILEY.†
1829—1831, JOHN M. READ.†
1832—1833, SAMUEL H. PERKINS.†
1834, ENOS S. GANDY.†
1835, JOHN Y. BLACK.†
1836—1840, JOSEPH R. CHANDLER.†
1841—1842, ALEXANDER DIAMOND.†
1843—1844, WILLIAM WHITNEY.†
1845—1846, WILLIAM BARGER.†

- 1847, JOHN MCGRATH.†
1848, JOHN J. KRIDER.†
1849, JAMES SIMPSON.†
1850—1851, DAVID C. SKERRETT.†
1852—1853, EDWARD P. LESCURE.†
1854, ANTHONY BOURNONVILLE.†
1855—1856, HARMAN BAUGH.†
1857, JOHN C. SMITH.†
1858—1859, DANIEL THOMPSON.†
1860, BENJAMIN PARKE.†
1861, HARMAN YERKES.†
1862—1863, JEREMIAH L. HUTCHINSON.†
1864—1865, GEORGE W. WOOD.†
1866—1867, SAMUEL C. PERKINS.
1868—1869, GEORGE GRISCOM.†
1870—1871, MICHAEL NISBET.†
1872—1873, CHARLES E. MEYER.*
1874—1875, ANDREW ROBENO, JR.†
1876, GEORGE E. WAGNER.
1877—1878, ALFRED R. POTTER.†
1879—1880, WILLIAM C. HAMILTON.
1881—1882, HIBBERT P. JOHN.
1883—1884, AUGUSTUS R. HALL.†
1885—1886, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR.
1887—1888, MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON.
1889—1890, JAMES S. BARBER.
1891—1892, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN.
1893—1894, EDGAR A. TENNIS.
1895—1896, EZRA S. BARTLETT.
1897—1898, RICHARD M. JOHNSON.
1898—1899, MICHAEL W. JACOBS.

† Deceased.

* Expelled.



Herbert P. John

M. E. GRAND HIGH PRIEST

1881-1882

Our Dead.

“Sleep on, Companions, sleep and take your rest,
Until the shadows from this earth are cast ;
Until the Lord gathers in His sheaves at last,
Until the twilight gloom be overpassed.
Until we meet before the throne,
Clothed in the spotless robes He gives His own,
Until we know even as we are known,
Good night ! Good night ! Good night !”

In Memoriam.

CARLTON H. COVELL

M. E. High Priest of Chapter No. 162.

DIED MARCH 25, 1899.

FREDERIC B. VANDEGRIFT,

King of Chapter No. 52.

DIED MARCH 7, 1899.

JAMES C. PENICK,

King of Chapter No. 233.

DIED NOVEMBER 14, 1899.

BENAI AH KEISEN,

Scribe of Chapter No. 190.

DIED DECEMBER 14, 1899.

HENRY L. CAKE,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 159.

DIED AUGUST 26, 1899.

In Memoriam.

DAVID P. ESTEP,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 162.

DIED SEPTEMBER 22, 1899.

JAMES FUNK,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 166.

DIED AUGUST 6, 1899.

JAMES P. MALSEED,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 169.

DIED SEPTEMBER 4, 1899.

EDWARD H. JONES,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 170.

DIED MARCH 2, 1899.

FRANCIS W. DEWITT,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 172.

DIED JUNE 12, 1899.

In Memoriam.

WALTER B. MASSER,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 174.

DIED FEBRUARY 27, 1899.

WILLIAM H. BAKER,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 175.

DIED APRIL 23, 1899.

LOUIS A. GALLUP,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 175.

DIED, NOVEMBER 9, 1899.

WILLIAM STOCKER,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 178.

DIED JANUARY 2, 1899.

ROBERT CARTER,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 179.

DIED OCTOBER 22, 1899.

In Memoriam.

JOSEPH B. VANBERGEN,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 179.

DIED APRIL 21, 1899.

WILLIAM L. COX,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 180.

DIED JUNE 13, 1899.

B. FRANK ABBETT,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 183.

DIED AUGUST 22, 1899.

HENRY J. WALTERS,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 186.

DIED FEBRUARY 28, 1899.

JOHN M. PRESSELL,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 189.

DIED APRIL 23, 1899.

In Memoriam.

JOHN SLINGLUFF,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 190.

DIED MAY 12, 1899.

HILLARY J. BRUNOT,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 192.

DIED JUNE 10, 1899.

WILLIAM M. SINGER,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 192.

DIED SEPTEMBER 21, 1899.

JOHN J. THORNTON

P. H. P. Chapter No. 193.

DIED APRIL 21, 1899.

HENRY W. WILLIAMS

P. H. P. Chapter No. 194.

DIED JANUARY 25, 1899.

In Memoriam.

AARON F. SIEGRIST,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 197.

DIED OCTOBER 26, 1899.

ISAAC A. ELLIOT,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 199.

DIED OCTOBER 14, 1899.

WILLIAM H. JORDAN,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 199.

DIED DECEMBER 14, 1899.

CHARLES P. KEECH,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 202.

DIED JUNE 25, 1899.

WILLIAM D. HARTMAN,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 202.

DIED AUGUST 16, 1899.

In Memoriam.

PETER H. GARRAHER,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 214.

DIED OCTOBER 9, 1899.

WILLIAM PAUL, JR.,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 217.

DIED FEBRUARY 23, 1899.

STEPHEN M. REYNOLDS,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 217.

DIED OCTOBER 21, 1899.

PETER S. HARMAN,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 218.

DIED OCTOBER 15, 1899.

HENRY S. SECHLER,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 220.

DIED FEBRUARY 13, 1899.

In Memoriam.

WILLIAM C. DICKEY,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 223.

DIED APRIL 18, 1899.

JOSEPH C. STRICKLAND,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 223.

DIED NOVEMBER 11, 1899.

ANDREW J. KAUFFMAN,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 224.

DIED MAY 19, 1899.

ROBERT H. VAUGHN,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 232.

DIED MARCH 14, 1899.

JOHN M. HOWLAND,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 232.

DIED DECEMBER 2, 1899.

In Memoriam.

ALFRED CLEGG,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 233.

DIED MARCH 18, 1899.

JOHN ALLEN,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 240.

DIED MARCH 20, 1899.

GEORGE CARNELL,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 243.

DIED JULY 7, 1899.

CHARLES HOFFMAN,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 243.

DIED NOVEMBER 16, 1899.

ROBERT S. H. KEYS,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 249.

DIED JUNE 24, 1899.

In Memoriam.

J. FLETCHER NICHOLSON,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 249.

DIED AUGUST 9, 1899.

DAVID M. BLACK,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 250.

DIED APRIL 20, 1899.

JOHN W. HARDLEY,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 252.

DIED NOVEMBER 9, 1899.

SAMUEL B. WILLIAMS,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 257.

DIED FEBRUARY 1, 1899.

JOSEPH EICHBAUM,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 257.

DIED APRIL 15, 1899.

ORRIN T. SMITH,

P. H. P. Chapter No. 276.

DIED JUNE 19, 1899.

Report on Correspondence.

The proceedings of the different Grand Chapters with whom we are in correspondence, have been assigned to the members of our Committee for review in the following order :

Alabama	}	Matthias H. Henderson, P. G. H. P.
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California		
Canada		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia		
England	}	Stockton Bates.
Florida		
General Grand Chapter		
Georgia		
Illinois		
Indiana		
Indian Territory		
Iowa		
Ireland		
Kansas		
Kentucky		
Louisiana		
Maine	}	J. Simpson Africa.
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
Michigan		
Minnesota		
Mississippi		
Missouri		
Montana		
Nebraska		
Nevada		
New Brunswick		

New Hampshire	}	Joshua L. Lyte.
New Jersey		
New York		
North Carolina		
North Dakota		
Nova Scotia		
Ohio		
Oregon		
Quebec		
Rhode Island		
Scotland		
South Carolina	}	James H. Coddington.
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
Texas		
Vermont		
Victoria		
Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		

In reviewing the various proceedings that have come under our notice, we observe that none of the Committees on Correspondence write introductions of any length to their reports, and most of them submit their work without any introduction. If we were to attempt to write one now, we could only say what we have already said on many occasions: that we salute our Companions of the Reportorial Corps in the bonds of Masonic Fellowship, trusting that they have prospered since last we met and that no disaster or affliction has befallen them.

The only change we know of is occasioned by the death of Companion Palmer Job Pillans, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, who wrote its reports for thirty-one years. With Companions Drummond of Maine, Barlow of Connecticut, Singleton of the District of Columbia, and Schultz of Maryland, (now retired) he was one of the veterans and having wrought well

and finished his work, has laid down his tools and gone to receive the wages he has earned. Peace to his soul and honor to his memory.

In our reviews we have aroused discussion as to the method of suspending members who neglect to pay their dues. Some maintain that such delinquents should not be deprived of their membership without trial.

In Pennsylvania a Masonic trial is quite a complicated proceeding, consisting of charges and specifications, a summons under seal to the accused, reference to a Committee who must organize and appoint a Secretary who keeps full and accurate minutes of its proceedings, summoning of witnesses and taking of testimony, report of the Committee and final action of the Chapter; and to the accused the right of appeal within a certain period, (six months). The evidence upon which to act can be gathered by no other method. Some of it may have to be obtained from persons who are not Masons and who could not be brought before the Chapter. The above formula is strictly adhered to so that every right of the offender may be protected, and any informality or neglect to follow the prescribed form quashes the entire proceedings. This form is intended for the trial of those who are guilty of any Masonic offence except non-payment of dues.

The charges and specifications are what our legal companions would call the indictment, setting forth in clear terms what the offender is accused of. The Committee is appointed to collect the evidence for part of which, as stated above, they may be obliged to go outside of the Fraternity. Upon the evidence they decide whether or not the charges are sustained and so report to the Chapter which acts upon their report. The whole object of a trial may be summed up in three words: "To obtain evidence."

In the case of a delinquent for non-payment of dues, the evidence can be procured without such a tedious formula. It is all upon the books of the Secretary. But, say our friends, the Secretary's books may be incorrect. As Secretaries are human and liable to err, we will grant that they may make mistakes. But here let us state that no Companion can be suspended in Pennsylvania unless a notice of his liability to suspension, and the time at which action will be taken on his case has been sent to his last known address, and sufficient time has elapsed in which he can answer. Thus if any error exists in the Secretary's account he had the opportunity to show it or to state any other good reason he may have for asking further time. We may state here that extensions are frequently granted. But suppose the Secretary's account is not challenged and the evidence is conclusive, what good reason is there then for further delay, or what use is there in going through complicated forms to obtain what the Chapter has already? Every right of the delinquent has been carefully protected. He has had every chance to save himself, but has not done so. Why should the Chapter carry any longer, at an expense to itself, a member from whom it derives no revenue? If our friends in other jurisdictions desire to observe all the forms of a trial in these cases, we have no objection, but we believe our method is as just and is much more expeditious.

In reinstatement of those who have been suspended for non-payment of dues, the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania is particularly lenient. Upon the payment of all arrearages the delinquent may, within one year from the date of his suspension, be restored to membership by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any stated meeting of the Chapter, after one month's notice to the members. Those suspended for other causes do not enjoy this privilege, but must present a petition and submit to a unanimous ballot.

The Report of a Committee on Correspondence is not an expression of the views of the Grand Chapter. It is not formally adopted by the Grand Chapter and the members of that body know nothing about it until they see it in print. Any expression therein contained is that of the individual writer and his Grand Chapter should not be held to account for it.

This is still more the case in our report, which is the work of several writers. There is no consultation or revision among the members of our Committee. Each expresses his own opinions and they should be regarded as such and nothing more, no responsibility extending beyond the writer.

We make the above statement because we have recently had occasion to believe it expedient to do so. M. H. H.

ALABAMA.

The proceedings of this Grand Chapter for 1898 bear upon the first page of the cover a representation of the Masonic Temple at Montgomery. It is four stories high, of fine proportions, and is a handsome and imposing edifice.

The Seventy-second Annual Grand Convocation was held at Montgomery, December 5th, at ten o'clock A. M. M. E. Comp. Josiah Jernigan presided and delivered his annual address. He announced the death of Comp. Palmer Job Pillans who for thirty-one years wrote the reports on correspondence and gives a sketch of his life. He was born January 30th, 1816 in South Carolina and was a graduate of Charleston College. After graduation he studied law and was admitted to practice, but soon became a member of an army surveying corps and saw much service in Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina. He afterwards became a civil engineer for a time, but upon the breaking out of the Seminole war he volunteered and served as a Lieutenant. He was a Major in the Texan army and

afterwards went to Santa Fe, New Mexico, where after a residence of three years he was appointed Chief Justice. From there he returned to the States and located at Mobile where the remainder of his long life was spent. He held several positions of honor and trust and was ever recognized as a useful and honored citizen. During the war between the States he served as a Lieutenant-Colonel of Infantry and afterwards as Constructing Engineer in the field works around Mobile.

His Masonic history is interesting. He was a member of the Grand Lodge of Alabama forty years and was a recognized power in its councils. He was Grand Master two terms, 1875-77, and it was said of him that no Grand Master ever better upheld the dignity of the office, or was more jealous of any infringement of its prerogatives. His nature was genial and sunny. He was earnest and ardent in whatever he professed, was never afraid to express and maintain his own views, yet was so courteous in his demeanor, and so honest were his arguments that all men loved him even in opposition and no Mason ever spoke his name except in terms of tender affection.

We hear of the death of Comp. Pillans with sincere regret. Though we never saw him or ever had any direct communication with him we have been writing back and forth to each other for some years and we had learned to look for his report with pleasant anticipation. He was interested in his work and wrote with ability, two elements which conjoined never fail to produce happy results. His reviews of Pennsylvania were always kind and fraternal, criticising us when he thought proper but doing it conscientiously and in a manner which left no sores or scars. We will miss him and will ever hold him in fond remembrance. As his place had not been filled when the proceedings went to press there is no Report on Correspondence.

M. E. Comp. Jernigan made but one decision, in which he held that after a petition has been received from an applicant, a committee appointed, and the committee makes its report to the Chapter, said petition cannot be withdrawn, but must take the usual course. In Pennsylvania a petition for the degrees and membership can be withdrawn after a favorable report by the Committee of Inquiry, and with the consent of a majority of the members present.

The Grand Chapter adopted a resolution that no Chapter should charge a less fee than thirty dollars for the Chapter degrees, which fees should in all cases accompany the petition; that no credit be given, nor should any part thereof be refunded to any candidate unless his petition be rejected. So far good, but in the next breath they resolved that:—all regularly ordained ministers of the gospel who are actively engaged in the exercise of their ministerial functions and in good standing in their respective lodges, may be entitled, upon application and election thereto, to receive said degrees gratuitously. We will take the liberty of saying that we believe this to have been a mistake. The average salary paid to ministers of the gospel will compare favorably with that paid to men in other callings. We know of no reason why they should be dead-headed or why they should not pay for what they receive the same as others do. We know ministers who resent any such discrimination, claiming they are able to pay their way, that they do not wish to be considered objects of charity, and that their feelings of self respect revolt at such so called favors. We honor and respect them for their independence.

The Standing Committees made their reports which show the affairs of the Grand Chapter to be in good working and financial condition but contain nothing of special interest.

Comp. Edward S. Gatchell, of Selma, was elected Grand High Priest, and Comp. H. Clay Armstrong, of Montgomery, Grand Secretary.

ARIZONA.

The Grand Chapter of Arizona which a year ago met in the bowels of the earth, viz: in the cave of the Copper Queen mine at the town of Bisbee, this year re-visited the glimpses of the moon, or sun, and met not in but on terra-firma at Globe, where the Ninth Annual Convocation was held on Wednesday, November 16, 1898, The Grand High Priest was absent, and his address, which was brief, was read by Comp. Charles D. Belden. He congratulated the Grand Chapter on the advance made during the past eight years, and said that the weakly infant born at that time, which appeared to many Grand Chapters as like a squab, largest when first born, had developed and grown until to-day they are very proud of it. There are five chapters in Arizona and he reported the gain in membership to be forty-nine, and the balance in the treasury of the Grand Chapter to be \$969.25, which he said was an increase. He had but little to report in his official capacity. Unfortunately his occupation had precluded the possibility of paying any official visitations. He made no decisions that he thought of sufficient importance to report and had received few communications, none of which were actually necessary as the questions asked could have been answered by reference to the Constitution. He reported commissions issued to representatives and gave a list of the dead and closed by regretting his inability to be present.

The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary each made statistical reports.

The Committee on Correspondence made a report which we will give at length, when our readers will know as much about it as we do.

“Your Committee on Correspondence take pleasure in reporting to this Grand Chapter that no question of difference has arisen among our sister Grand Chapters whereby the peace and harmony of the order have been disturbed.”

“We heartily endorse the appointments made of representatives to other Grand Bodies.”

“A steady increase in membership in all parts of our Grand Jurisdiction speaks well for the zeal and fidelity which animates the hearts of the Royal Craft ”

“Fraternally submitted.”

(Signed by the Committee.)

The Committee on Grievances reported that nothing had come before them for consideration.

The pamphlet closes with memorial pages to the dead, a copy of the General Regulations, which are founded on good Masonic law, a list of officers and members of the Chapters, and the proceedings of the Order of High Priesthood.

Comp. James C. Monihon, of Phoenix, was elected Grand High Priest, and -Comp, George J. Roskruge, of Tucson, Grand Secretary.

ARKANSAS.

The Forty-ninth Annual Convocation was held at Little Rock, November 17, 1898. The Grand High Priest, Companion Antonio B. Grace, delivered a lengthy address giving a very complete and interesting report of his official acts. It shows much care in its preparation, is well written, and contains a great deal which the Royal Arch student may reflect upon profitably.

He says that so far as he is advised peace and harmony prevail throughout his jurisdiction. Numerically their growth has been small, but he trusts they have grown sufficiently in zeal and true Masonic spirit, in brotherly love and charity, to more than compensate for any deficiency in numbers.

He made a number of decisions, some of which do not agree with our ideas of Masonic Law.

A Chapter asked permission to elect a Scribe to fill a vacancy caused by death, but the Grand High Priest replied that they could not elect, that the station must be filled by appointment at each meeting of the Chapter until the next annual election. We fail to see the wisdom or propriety of this decision. The promotion of no Companion would be retarded or his rights trespassed upon by granting the request nor would any interest of the Chapter or of Royal Arch Masonry be endangered.

Another Chapter wished to confer the degrees upon a very worthy and zealous brother who had lost his right hand, but was not permitted to do so.

Another desired to take the constitutional fee of \$25 from a candidate and then donate him \$17.50. He replied that the minimum fee was \$25, which must accompany the petition; that this was mandatory and must be complied with and that no Chapter has the right to evade it directly or indirectly. In both of these decisions we agree with him.

He constituted three new Chapters and arrested the warrants of three for failure to make returns.

In regard to Grand Visitations he says he contributed his share to that famous pavement which is said to be formed of good intentions. Being wholly dependent on his own exertions for the support of himself and family he could not

afford either the time or the money necessary to make many official visits. He nevertheless found opportunity to visit five Chapters which he reported to be in good condition. We infer from the above that the Grand Chapter makes no appropriation for the expenses of the Grand High Priest which we believe it should do if its financial condition justifies it.

He talks very sensibly about the practice of rushing candidates through the Lodge and Chapter with undue haste, using those bodies as a ladder to attain the so-called "higher degrees" and greatly fears that the questions propounded in the preparing-room of the Lodge are not always fully appreciated and sincerely answered. He agrees with another Companion whom he quotes that the black-ball is the only solution of the problem and that petitions should not be received until the petitioner has been a Master Mason six months, which is the unwritten law in Pennsylvania. He also recommends legislation which will compel Chapters to require every candidate to pass in open Chapter a satisfactory examination in the work and lectures of the degree he has received before conferring another upon him. We do not think this practicable as it will be found very tedious, protracting the meetings to a late hour and tiring the members. A more satisfactory way, and one that accomplishes the same end is to place the neophyte in charge of a Committee of Instructors who at the proper time vouch for his proficiency. We speak from experience.

In a former report we stated our views concerning rotation in office and said we believed it wise to re-elect the High Priest once but not wise to continue him in office indefinitely as it suppressed the aspirations of other members and caused them to lose interest. We are glad to note that Companion Grace holds the same opinion which he has well expressed.

He closes with some good suggestions from among which we select the following:

Chapters owning buildings, or only personal property of value should keep the same insured against fire.

No Mark Master Mason should be permitted to advance until he has selected and recorded his mark.

The State should be divided into at least four districts, and one of the four principal officers of the Grand Chapter assigned to each, with the duty of visiting as many as possible of the Chapters therein every year.

Companion Grace closes his address by saying that he can see nothing in his life at all comparable with the honor of having presided over the Royal Craft of Arkansas, and implores the Divine blessing upon them.

The Grand Secretary and usual Standing Committees made their reports which contain nothing of interest to us.

The Report on Correspondence is compiled by Companion R. J. O'Laughlin. This is not his name but is as near it as he has come to ours in the last two years. He says he does not care much for mistakes in his name so that "Mc" is not added to it. As we have respected his feelings and have not added "Mc" he can have no grievance against us. As long as he can keep his scissors sharp and has the paste pot within reach he will be able to get up a Report on Correspondence. He uses his pen sometimes and expresses himself very intelligently on many subjects.

He believes that public installations, properly conducted, are intelligent illustrations of our teachings clothed in elegant language. He says they have them frequently and have never known anything but the very best results to follow them. In this opinion he will not find a responsive chord in our breast. We do not see how anything can be "properly conducted" which in itself is improper; or how good results to Masonry can follow a violation of a Masonic landmark. Con-

cerning this subject of public installations we have heretofore gone no further than to make a general denial of its propriety, but to-day something impels us to say more. The vitality of Freemasonry is contained in its secrets which are imparted in its Ritual. So essential are these secrets that Dr. Mackey says they are the safeguards of the Institution, giving to it all its security and perpetuity. The Rituals of Freemasonry are the methods by which these secrets are imparted and while they vary in different jurisdictions, they all convey the same secrets. For every Masonic ceremony there is a form of Ritual which imparts the secrets of that particular ceremony and no other form can lawfully be used. The installation of officers is a ceremony having its peculiar secrets which must be imparted or the ceremony is without vitality and is imperfect and is therefore null and void. These secrets cannot be imparted in public, therefore the public ceremony, while it may be called an installation, is not a Masonic installation. The incumbent, not having received the attributes of the ceremony, is not clothed with the authority of an official. Something essential is lacking and he is not qualified to preside or exercise the functions of his office. But our friends may say, we have another ceremony in which the secret attributes of the installation are imparted either before or after the public ceremony. All we have to say to that is that then is the time the real installation takes place, the other being merely a show designed to catch the eye of the public and delude them with the belief that they had witnessed a Masonic ceremony.

What good results can accrue to Freemasonry from public installations? We say none whatever. It is only done as an advertisement in the hope that the witnesses who are not Masons will be pleased with what they see and be induced to apply for initiation and the body be thereby enriched. Or else, it is done through vanity by those who desire to exhibit themselves before their friends and especially before their

sweethearts clothed in handsome regalia and show them how glibly they can turn off flowery sentences, which illustrate Masonic teaching about as much as the Arabian Nights or Robinson Crusoe do.

He does not think the Past Master's degree belongs to the Capitular system.

He thinks the Masonic burial of the dead belongs properly to the Lodge and is a believer in dependent membership, saying with emphasis that the Chapter cannot exist without the Lodge, either in its membership or degrees.

He says Reports on Correspondence are not "adopted." They are ordered printed for the information of the Craft and no one is responsible for them but the author. In all the above we agree with him fully.

He gives our proceedings of 1897 a fraternal review of nearly two pages.

Comp. J. H. Kennerly, of Sulphur Rock was elected Grand High Priest and Comp. James A. Henry, of Little Rock, Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA.

The Forty-fifth Annual Convocation was held at San Francisco, April 18, 1899. M. E. Eli Tucker Blackmer, Grand High Priest, whose portrait fronts the title page, presided. His address is a very comprehensive review of his administration. An interesting part of it, interesting to us because we were once concerned in a similar case, is a rebuke he administered to an officer of a Chapter who issued a circular to Royal Arch Masons, soliciting votes for six candidates for political offices on the ground that they were members of his

Chapter. M. E. Comp. Blackmer handled this case most judiciously; in a dignified and courteous manner, yet promptly and without fear or favor. By his direction charges were preferred and proved. As it was the first offence of the kind the culprit was let down easy by a reprimand in the presence of a large assemblage of the members of his Chapter, but was given to understand that it would not be safe for him or any other Companion in California to repeat it. When will some of our Companions be restrained in their misdirected enthusiasm and be made to understand that Masonry must not be used to advance their business interests or their political ambition?

A decision in line with Pennsylvania ideas, as similar ones have been made here in similar cases, is the following: A resident of San Francisco went to Ireland on a visit and while there was made a Royal Arch Mason. On his return he was refused recognition as such on the ground that the Irish Chapter had no jurisdiction over him and for the further reason that he had not received the degrees of Past Master and Most Excellent Master. The question was referred to the Grand High Priest who confirmed the action saying that aside from the question of jurisdiction that had been correctly stated, no Royal Arch Mason can be recognized as such unless he has received all the preceding degrees in a lawfully warranted and duly constituted Chapter. There is but one course to pursue in such cases and Most Excellent Companion Blackmer pursued it. The applicant is not censurable as he is the unsuspecting victim of those who should know better. There is a courteous understanding among the Grand bodies of the United States that none of them will confer the degrees of Masonry upon an applicant who resides in another jurisdiction without the consent of the Grand body under whose jurisdiction he lives, and any breach of this custom would be

considered a violation of the spirit of true Masonic fellowship. It would be well if our foreign brethren were as considerate of the rights of others.

Upon the approach of the meeting of the Grand Commandery of California, three Master Masons awoke to the realization that it was important that they become Knights Templars, and preparatory thereto, Royal Arch Masons. As this reality did not present itself until it was too late to attain the goal of their ambition by due course of petition, reference and ballot, the dispensing power of the Grand High Priest was invoked and he was petitioned to so modify the safeguards which had been thrown around the reception of petitions that the usual delays could be avoided, quick action taken and these zealous brethren be enabled to appear as full fledged Knights Templars at the aforesaid meeting. Comp. Blackmer did not see it in exactly the light they wished him to and stated his reasons for not granting the dispensations, as follows:—That the General Regulations declare that such dispensations shall not be granted “for accommodation only” and that the election of a candidate without reference to a committee, merely for the purpose of qualifying him to attend the Grand body of another organization, is not an emergency such as would warrant the exercise of his authority in granting the dispensations asked for. We commend his action.

He visited the Chapters under his care to the full extent of his means and opportunities comprising about one half of the total number, and is satisfied that this part of the work has not been sufficiently provided for by the Grand Chapter, and expresses the hope that some provision will be made for frequent and competent instruction. He thinks that in no other direction can the funds of the Grand Chapter, and the time and strength of its officers be expended where they will meet with such a bountiful return. He says the various Inspectors

should be required to visit the Chapters under their Jurisdiction at least once a year, and that provision in their law requiring a High Priest to procure a certificate as to his qualification for conferring the degrees from his Inspector should be rigidly enforced. Good advice.

The Committee on Jurisprudence to whom was referred the question of recognizing the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand reported in favor of its recognition which report was adopted. This is the Grand Chapter which our Committee refused to recognize for reasons stated in our report of December 8, 1898, and published in the proceedings of our Grand Chapter of that year. The California Committee say that former objections have been removed, and that it is now in fact as in name the Supreme Royal Arch authority in New Zealand. In that case recognition should follow but we must here state that our California Companions were favored with information which we did not receive. The only guide we had was the circular letter accompanying our report which stated in plain, unequivocal, and distinct language that the body calling itself the Supreme Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand was not supreme.

A revised constitution was adopted and ordered printed in the proceedings, also five hundred extra copies for distribution.

Past Grand High Priest Thomas Hubbard Caswell who had been Grand Secretary for twenty-one years declined further service. The Grand Chapter desiring that he should carry with him in his retirement some evidence of their appreciation of his long and faithful service authorized the Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary to procure and present to him a suitable remembrance, giving them carte blanche in the matter of expense.

Past Grand High Priest William A. Davies again writes the Report on Correspondence. He notices Pennsylvania in a review of nearly three pages. Everything seems to suit him for he makes no criticisms.

A large part of the volume is taken up with the new constitution and the returns of the Chapters which comprise a list of their present and past officers and all of their members.

Comp. Florin Leslie Jones, of San Francisco, was elected Grand High Priest, and Past Grand High Priest William A. Davies of the same city, Grand Secretary.

CANADA.

The Forty-First Annual Convocation was held at Stratford, January 25, 1899, M. E. Companion M. Walsh as Grand Z. made an address. From his observation of the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in Canada during 1898 he classifies the Chapters as follows: Stationary, 16; Retrograding, 7; Progressing, 56.

Some time ago the Grand Chapter reduced the minimum fee for exaltation and membership from twenty dollars to ten dollars, and after two years experience he expresses himself in the following sensible words, which we fully endorse. He thinks their steps should be retraced and twenty dollars again be made the minimum fee, for the following reasons: He finds that when a Chapter has reduced its fee to ten dollars, other Chapters who did not wish to make their degrees so cheap were compelled to do so. Candidates soon learn that the next Chapter to theirs only charges ten dollars and they ask why the Chapter in whose jurisdiction they live demands more, and they hesitate; they are not willing to give more than the neighboring Chapter asks; they cannot go to the

cheap Chapter because they are not within its jurisdiction and both Chapters lose these men unless the Chapter in whose bounds the candidates live, against their wish reduce their fee.

When the fee is ten dollars, two dollars goes for a certificate and registration, leaving but eight dollars for the Chapter, which is too small a fee for any Chapter to exist upon for any length of time. There may be a rush for a time, but in all cases the amount of suitable material is limited and is soon exhausted, when the Chapter finds itself running behind financially with its attendant troubles. To avoid this, the members relax the scrutiny of the ballot and admit material which they otherwise would not, and so lower the standard of the Royal Craft.

Among another class of candidates the lowering of the fee has had an opposite effect from that expected, a class that has high ideas of Masonry, and when they find one Chapter after another reducing their admission fee, the question suggests itself to them: Is this branch of Masonry worth much when its possessors are making it so cheap, almost bidding against each other for candidates? They hang back and consider the matter, and it ends there—it is too cheap for that class of our brethren.

He is aware that several Chapters that reduced their fee temporarily and made a sudden increase to their numbers, went back to the old fee, and others to fifteen dollars. They found that they could not pay expenses and at the same time admit only proper material.

He thinks that whatever good the ten dollar fee is capable of doing has been accomplished and that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry in Canada demand a return to a minimum fee of twenty dollars.

R. E. Comp. N. T. Lyon gave notice that at the next Annual Convocation he would move that Sec. 2, Art. 4, of the Constitution be amended by striking out the word "ten" in the fourth line, and substituting therefor the word "twenty."

We do not believe in cheap Masonry. We never did believe in it. We would not make the initiation fees prohibitory to all but millionaires, nor would we make them so low that every trifle who desires to gratify a passing whim could avail himself of them. We believe that from forty to fifty dollars is as low as any Lodge should confer its three degrees, and from twenty to twenty-five dollars is as cheap as any Chapter should make a Royal Arch Mason. To those who say that Masonry is too expensive as compared with other secret societies, we would reply that it does not enter into competition with any other society or organization. It is on a plane of its own to which none other can aspire. It is a luxury not a necessity, and is only for those who can afford luxuries. There are numerous other worthy societies in which the poor man by paying a stipulated sum as an initiation fee, and for annual dues can enter into a contract by which he receives a fixed amount in the way of benefits in case of sickness, or of insurance in case of death. They have done great good and are truly the poor man's friend, and if Masonry is beyond his means they will supply its place to him.

The man, no matter how poor his circumstances, who joined Masonry because of the good opinion he had of it, and who continued to be a Mason because he loved the symbolism and teachings of Masonry never objected to its price or found it oppressive. Freemasonry will be appreciated in proportion to the appreciation it shows for itself by not holding itself too cheaply.

We have been criticised for these views and we do not expect every one to agree with us. It has been said to us that

we would make Masonry a rich man's society which we deny, but we would try to preserve it for those who can appreciate it and who are willing to pay a fair price for it. Every year that we live strengthens us in these opinions.

The Grand Superintendents of the seventeen districts made extended and minute reports of their official acts and the condition of their respective charges. These reports occupy fifty-five pages and are referred to the Committee on Condition of Capitular Masonry which made a report covering seven pages. The sum of the whole is contained in these lines which we quote :

“With but few exceptions the reports are full of valuable information as to the work done in and progress made by the several Chapters under their respective jurisdictions. Except in a few instances there has been an increased membership in the various Chapters and all the various Superintendents speak hopefully of the future.”

The appendix contains the Report on Correspondence by Companion George J. Bennett, who reviewed the proceedings of forty-two Grand Chapters in a very intelligent, instructive and pleasing style. Pennsylvania occupies five pages. He makes liberal extracts from our proceedings and comments quite freely which we like to see. It seems that we were mistaken in our understanding of the working of the Past Master's degree in Canada. Until a few years ago there were two ceremonies there known by different names and conferred under different circumstances. One is “Installed Master,” conferred upon a brother elected to and seated in the east as Worshipful Master of his Lodge, and in the presence of Past Masters only. The other was “Past Master,” conferred under Chapter authority as a prerequisite to the Royal Arch Degree. The latter has been eliminated from the Capitular system which now embraces only the Mark, Most Excellent, and Royal Arch Degrees. We are glad to be corrected on this sub-

ject and now we have a question to ask Companion Bennett. How does a brother become a Royal Arch Mason who has never been elected and installed Worshipful Master of his Lodge?

In regard to typographical errors he says that if he had the opportunity of a final revision all would be well, but that when the printer is fifty miles away it is not always easy to see that the proofs are corrected. We regret that we cannot accept the excuse. Ever since we have been writing these reports, now some six or seven years, our printer has been four hundred miles from us and we never saw him. Notwithstanding, the United States mails have been in daily operation and our proceedings have never gone to press until our proofs have had a final personal revision. In view of past criticisms we take pleasure in saying that the volume at present under review presents a very neat, correct, and attractive appearance showing that improvement can always be attained by care and personal attention.

M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, of Hamilton, is Grand Z. and R. E. Comp. George J. Bennett, of Toronto, is Grand Scribe E.

COLORADO.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Denver, September 22, 1898, at which time M. E. Comp. William D. Pierce, Grand High Priest, presided and delivered his annual address. After the usual felicitations upon meeting once again, the fraternal relations existing between the Grand Chapter of Colorado and other Grand Chapters, and a tribute to the dead, he proceeds to say that on account of their Chapters being so widely separated and the consequent heavy travelling expenses he had not visited as many of them as he wished. In those visited, with a few exceptions, he witnessed

good work, the records were neatly kept, the officers zealous and painstaking and they were fairly well supported by the membership. At all times he was the recipient of many courtesies and hospitalities; the Companions vying with each other in their attentions, his visits were marked with all the honors due his exalted station.

He devotes two pages to a review of the condition of Capital Masonry in his jurisdiction and makes some statements and comments which we think worthy of reproduction.

It was his earnest endeavor to arouse greater interest in the Chapters, more enthusiasm among the subordinate officers, a desire for uniform work, an increased attendance and larger membership. In order that he might become acquainted with the condition of his Chapters he issued to each a blank report asking a number of questions. From them he learned that of the thirty-three Chapters, twenty-five were strong and active, five were weak and three needed the most careful attention. Two had not held their annual election because they were not able to get a constitutional number of their members present; their membership being scattered from Alaska to South America. Two Chapters held annual meetings and no more. When the Chapters had work the regular officers, with few exceptions, conferred the degrees without the aid of any book, cypher, or other help to memory. Twenty-four High Priests had familiarized themselves with the Constitution and By-laws, nine had not read them. Twenty-nine Chapters reported no debt, many of them showing good balances; four had debts ranging from fifty dollars to twenty-eight hundred dollars.

He stated that the reports of the Grand Secretary show that for the past five years they have not gained in membership and that for the same period they have run behind financially at an average rate of two hundred dollars per annum; so that

it is only a question of time until the treasury is exhausted. The economy necessary is so great that its effect is beginning to be felt in the subordinate Chapters for it does not permit the Grand Officers to accept invitations and make visitations to distant Chapters, many of whom are greatly in need of encouragement. As travelling expenses are no small item in Colorado the average Grand officer cannot afford to bear it personally, neither can the Chapter visited; hence invitations are usually declined, the enthusiastic Companions become discouraged and the Chapter suffers. He believes that the good resulting from visitations cannot be over-estimated as is fully proved by the large attendance on such occasions and the renewed interest and energy manifested, and that if the Grand Chapter desires to foster and build up the weak and struggling Chapters it must devise ways and means whereby the Grand officers may come in contact with them more frequently.

We do not think the Companion has placed too high an estimate on the value of judicious Grand visitations. They gratify the strong Chapters and encourage the weak ones and bring all in closer touch with the Grand body and increase their interest in it.

An effort was inaugurated to increase the revenues of the Grand Chapter by raising the annual dues from Chapters from fifty cents to sixty cents for each member; consideration of which was postponed until the next annual convocation. In view of the Grand High Priest's statement that the Grand Chapter was losing two hundred dollars every year it would look as though the advance should be made.

There is no cheap Royal Arch Masonry in Colorado. The minimum fee there is fifty dollars and when a Companion offered an amendment to make it twenty-five the Grand Chapter would not adopt it. We have given our views in

another place concerning cheap Masonry and while we firmly believe in maintaining a high standard, we think our Companions of Colorado have set it higher than is necessary or advisable.

The Report on Correspondence is again written by Companion E. L. N. Foster, P. G. H. P. who reviews the different proceedings that came under his notice. Pennsylvania for 1897 received its share of his attention. He makes several quotations from the Report of our Committee. The one in which we disagree with Grand Chapters that proscribe liquor-sellers but admit liquor drinkers meets with his approval. On the others he expresses no opinion.

Our acquaintance, Companion Marshal H. Dean, has advanced another step towards the throne, having been elected and installed Deputy Grand High Priest which he now (August 1899) occupies. He will please accept our best wishes for his welfare and Masonic preferment.

Companion Jethro C. Sanford, of Durango, was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion William L. Bush, of Idaho Springs, Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT.

The One Hundred and First Annual Convocation was held at New Haven, May 9, 1899. M. E. Harry S. Abel, Grand High Priest, whose portrait forms the frontispiece of the volume, presided and delivered his annual address. It was brief and refers entirely to local matters. He, with the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, and Grand Scribe submitted reports of visits made which show the State to have been well covered.

The proceedings were purely routine, consisting of reports from the Standing Committees which were of no special interest except as we shall hereafter note. The financial condition is good.

The most interesting part of the volume to us is the Report on Correspondence written by the distinguished Companion who has served his Grand Chapter so long in that capacity, P. G. H. P., John H. Barlow. He reviews our proceedings for 1897 in the course of which he says that we seem to him to be rather radical on the subject of suspension for non-payment of dues, and takes exception to our statement that no trial is necessary. He says that while the books of the Secretary may be proof to a certain extent they are not absolutely free from error and do not show the ability of the Companion to pay; which statements we willingly grant. If he had stopped there we would have nothing to criticise, but he goes on and says he thinks no such penalty should in any case be inflicted without giving the Companion an opportunity to be heard in his defence. If Companion Barlow had read our proceedings carefully and understandingly we do not think he would have done us the injustice to pen the above strong inference that we would suspend our members without notice.

In our proceedings of 1897, p. 93, in our review of Delaware we wrote as follows:

“When he is notified that he is in arrears; that he is liable to suspension, and that he will be suspended at a time specified unless payment is made, he has all the notice he deserves or that the law requires, and the Chapter is justified in suspending him without further notice or ceremony. He has had ample opportunity to save himself.”

What does the above mean? Does it mean that we deprive a delinquent Companion of his membership without any warning and without giving him any opportunity to present his side of the case and ask for clemency? We think not. We leave it to the intelligent comprehension of our readers if it does. He quotes these words of ours and then as though he had not read them says he thinks no such penalty should in any case be inflicted without giving the Companion an opportunity to be heard in his defence.

Companion Barlow as you do not seem to fully understand our statement which you quote we will explain further:—No member of a Pennsylvania Chapter was ever lawfully suspended from membership without previous notice that he was in arrears and would be suspended at a certain time unless he appeared and showed cause why the penalty should not be inflicted. If the Secretary had made an error in his account he has the chance to step forward and show it and if he proves his case we will guarantee he will not be suspended. If he had been unfortunate and was not able to pay his dues let him come forward and say so and we will guarantee he will not be suspended and probably the Chapter will relieve his necessities. In the extremely rare instances where some Chapter has suspended without notice its action has been promptly set aside and the Companion has been reinstated in his former rights and privileges. What more would you require and do you not think you said the wrong thing?

Companion Barlow should look at home if he wishes to institute reforms for on page 30 of the proceedings of his Grand Chapter we find two resolutions that were introduced and referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence. The first one is as follows:

“Resolved, That any Chapter may strike from the roll the name of any Companion who is not in good standing and a member of a Lodge of Master Masons.”

No previous notice is required. He may have been unjustly suspended but he is given no opportunity to show that. Out he goes.

In Pennsylvania no Companion can be suspended without notice if it is possible to serve him with one.

In his review of Tennessee he expresses his doubts as to the expediency of the York Rite taking any part in the Scottish Rite quarrels, and states that an effort was made several years since to plant the clandestine Cerneau Rite in Connecticut, but no notice was taken of it except to sound the word of caution and he thinks it practically dead, as they hear very little of it.

We do not think there is any disposition among Grand Lodges of the York Rite to interfere with Scottish Rite Masonry unless it becomes necessary to protect themselves. Some years ago a number of the Cerneau bodies of the so-called Masonic Rite were established in Pennsylvania and boldly claimed the right to confer the three symbolic degrees. The Right Worshipful Grand Master, Brother Joseph Eichbaum, of blessed memory, issued an edict restraining any regular Mason within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania from affiliating with or in any way countenancing these clandestine bodies, and warning those who had already done so to withdraw from them under penalty of expulsion from their lodges should they refuse or neglect to do so. The effect of this edict was instantaneous. The Cerneau men knew that the Grand Master meant what he said and they swarmed from their bodies as rats are said to do from a sinking ship and to-day there is not a Cerneau organization in Pennsylvania, or a brother who dares to say he has any affiliation with or sympathy for them. The Grand Master, using the authority of his station, and supported by the Grand Lodge, said "This thing must stop," and it did stop.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania at the same time adopted three resolutions: The first was that if, as alleged, the organization known as the Consistory of the Cerneau Rite claims the power, or authority, or right to confer the three

degrees of Ancient Freemasonry, it is not consistent with the duty of members of Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge to seek or retain membership in that organization.

The second was, that the permission by a subordinate Lodge for the use of its place of meeting for the practice of the Cerneau Rite, or for any other purpose than the one recognized as Masonic, is unauthorized and improper.

The third said that this Grand Lodge expressly declines to enter upon any discussion of the history, use, or legitimacy of any body claiming to confer what is known as the high degrees in Freemasonry, or to be committed to the recognition of any such body as being Masonic, or as identified with or a part of Ancient Craft Masonry. Pro. G. L. of Pa., 1888, p. 25.

All the above we think is in line with the opinion expressed by Companion Barlow.

M. E. Wesley U. Pearne, of Middletown, was elected Grand High Priest, and R. E. James McCormick, of Hartford, Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE.

The proceedings of the Thirty-first Annual Convocation, held at Wilmington, January 18, 1899, are before us. The Grand High Priest, Comp. Lewis W. Flinn delivered a brief address. He says they have made commendable progress during the past year though he thinks it should have been larger considering the large lodge membership they have to draw from. The Grand Chapter lost no members by death.

The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary made reports showing the Grand Chapter to be in good, financial condition.

The Committees on Jurisprudence, Warrants and Dispensations, Work and By-Laws, reported that nothing had come before them for their consideration.

After the new officers had been elected and duly installed, Past Grand High Priest, Companion Virginius V. Harrison stepped forward and in well chosen remarks presented to the retiring Grand High Priest, Companion Flinn, a Past Grand High Priest's gold jewel; M. E. Companion Flinn receiving the same with thanks.

This commendable custom has never been introduced into Pennsylvania and we would like to know why. It is not through parsimony for the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania is not parsimonious in anything; but is ever ready with an open hand to spend money for any deserving charity or for any necessary purpose. We believe it has simply been overlooked and that it only awaits the suggestion of some one to be put in active operation. A form of jewel has been adopted which is not to our liking. We would amend it and after putting good stuff in it present one to each Companion who has presided over our deliberations. Who will start it?

The Report on Correspondence is again written by P. G. H. P., Comp. Virginius V. Harrison. We agree with him on many questions. He thinks a man with a cork leg, who can comply with all the requirements of the Capitular Degrees should not be debarred from receiving them, and that preachers should pay their way like other men. We concur.

He is also like us in that when he meets his name in print he prefers to see it spelled correctly.

Our proceedings for 1897 came under his notice. An excellent trait in Comp. Harrison's character is that when he finds he has made a misstatement he acknowledges it like a man. He knows to what we allude and we need not be more explicit.

Some time ago he said he did not think a Companion should be suspended from membership for non-payment of dues without due trial. We dissented from this on the ground that all the evidence needed could be obtained from the Secretary's books and expressed a desire to know what further form a trial should take. The only reply he makes is to reiterate his former statement by saying:—

“We believe that no Mason can lawfully be deprived of his rights as such, without trial, no matter whether the offence be un-masonic conduct, or for non-payment of dues.”

The writer is a seeker after Masonic light and knowledge. Where he has imbibed wrong ideas, or where he has no ideas at all on important questions he asks his better informed Companions to kindly take him by the hand and direct his wandering and uncertain steps in the path which will lead him to that information he so sadly needs. We asked Companion Harrison for bread and he gave us a stone. Will some one take pity on us and tell us how a trial for non-payment of dues should be conducted? what evidence should be required, and how it should be obtained?

Harry Galbraith, of Wilmington, Grand High Priest; James H. Price, of Wilmington, Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The Thirty-first Annual Convocation was held at Washington, December 14, 1898.

The Grand High Priest, Companion James F. R. Appleby in his address gave a very full account of his official acts, and expressed his opinions as to what was needed to further the interests of his Grand Chapter.

Concerning the work he said the truths taught in the Capitular Degrees are beautiful, grand and eternal. As truths they were established myriads of years ago, when the great I Am first thought of the human race, and will exist as truths until the end of time. He said further that as first impressions are lasting, it should be their sole end and aim to impress them on the minds of the candidates with all their force and beauty. To that end he recommended that as they had the best of material from which to select, the Grand Chapter should annually hereafter exemplify the degrees, and that the Grand High Priest, Grand Lecturer, and Committee on Work be directed to make arrangements for such exemplifications, selecting such Companions as they deemed best suited for the various positions in the several degrees.

Enumerating the advantages which would accrue from such an exemplification, he said it would create a greater and more intelligent interest in Capitular work; that it would be a valuable school for officers of Chapters; that it would have great influence in giving beauty, finish and grace of diction; that it would foster and encourage rivalry among the Chapters as to who could work best; and finally, that it would serve to make the members of the Grand Chapter feel that their Capitular life had not ended with their term of office.

We think the suggestion of Companion Appleby a most excellent one and hope the Grand Chapter will adopt it. At our March meeting the Mark Master Mason's degree is exemplified. At the June meeting the Most Excellent Master's Degree, and in September the Royal Arch. These exemplifications are by competent instructors under the direction of the Grand High Priest and all the benefits are obtained and enjoyed which Comp. A. mentions and seems to thoroughly understand.

The various Standing Committees made reports which contain nothing of interest. At the Annual Convocation of 1897 a special Committee was appointed to "consider the advisability of procuring jewels for our Past Grand High Priests." The Committee made a report stating that among the Blue Lodges and in the Grand Lodge it has long been the custom to present to those who have presided in the east a jewel indicative of their rank. That in their constituent Chapters the same custom has been followed, but that in the Grand Chapter the rule has been otherwise. That in this respect they differ from other jurisdictions which so far as they could learn presented their Past Grand High Priests with appropriate marks of distinction indicating the exalted office they have held. The Companion who has been thought worthy to occupy the chief place within the gift of the Royal Craft, who has given freely of his time and talent in behalf of the welfare of the organization, assuming duties and responsibilities the importance of which can hardly be exaggerated, they, the members of the Committee thought should be deserving of every possible mark of respect.

They therefore recommended that a Committee be appointed to purchase eighteen jewels at a stipulated price to be presented to their Past Grand High Priests, which recommendation was adopted and the Grand High Priest appointed the same Committee to procure the jewels.

We regret to note the fact, as indicated on a preceding page, that the Committee is mistaken in regard to the practice in all jurisdictions; notably Pennsylvania. With us the custom is very generally observed in all our Lodges and Chapters and has been the practice in our Grand Lodge for many years but that is all we can say. Our Grand Chapter is rich and we believe has as high a regard and as fraternal a feeling for her Past Grand High Priests as any other Grand Chapter has for

hers but she has never presented them with jewels. They would be proudly worn and duly appreciated and we trust that ere long the custom will be inaugurated.

The Report on Correspondence is again written by Companion William R. Singleton. Replying to Companion Harrison who said that "the pay of the average clergyman is much better than that of a very large majority of the average Masons who are not of the cloth," he says "Hear the other side," and goes on to say:—

"The expenses of the average clergyman are much greater than those of a very large majority of the average Masons who are not of the cloth."

a statement that we are not ready to endorse.

In support of his theory that an officer who has been re-elected need not be again installed he quotes Bro. W. J. Hughan as stating that the present Grand Master of England has never been reinstalled, although for many years he has been re-elected.

The Prince of Wales is Grand Master of England. He was elected and installed at the Annual Grand Festival Communication held at the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, London, April 28, 1875. It has been a frequent custom in Europe to elect the reigning sovereign, or as in this instance the heir to the throne, Grand Master, not for any labor he is expected to perform but because they think his rank and position will reflect prestige and honor upon the Craft. The records at our disposal show that the Prince has attended very few meetings of his Grand Lodge since his first election, and they were principally special meetings called to celebrate some prominent event; the last one being a Jubilee Communication held June 13, 1887 to congratulate his royal mother, Victoria on the completion of the fiftieth year of her reign. We cannot find that he has been in his Grand Lodge since although he has been re-elected annually.

Now we have a piece of news for Bro. Hughan. The records of the Grand Lodge of England show that the Grand Master was re-elected April 26, 1882, and that he was reinstalled. Our authority for this statement is the Report of the Committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania of which Committee Past Grand Master Richard Vaux was chairman. See Pro. G. L. of Pa., 1882, p. 288. The extract verbatim is as follows:--

“Annual Grand Festival, held April 26, 1882, the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Lathom, Deputy Grand Master on the Throne; Very Worshipful Col. S. H. Clerke, Grand Secretary.”

“H. R. H. the Prince of Wales was re-elected Grand Master, he was installed, and a banquet followed.”

The Prince had then been Grand Master seven years, and on his eighth re-election he was reinstalled. It is possible that he has been present at more meetings than we can find evidence of and we hope such is the case for if he has it is highly probable that having been reinstalled once, he has been reinstalled many times.

We have submitted enough evidence to show that Bro. Hughan is mistaken, and that if the Grand Master of England has not been reinstalled annually, a very probable reason for the omission is that his brethren have not been able to catch him in order to do it.

M. E. Samuel R. Bond, Grand High Priest; R. E. Arvine W. Johnston, Grand Secretary.

ENGLAND.

We have received a pamphlet containing the proceedings at a Quarterly Convocation of the above Grand Chapter held May 3, 1899.

M. E. Comp. The Right Honorable Earl Amherst, Pro. Grand Z. presided. The Prince of Wales is Grand Z. of England but he was not there. We incline to think he does not attend the Grand Chapter any oftener than he does the Grand Lodge.

E. Comp. Frank Richardson moved that a distinction be made in the regalia worn by present and Past Grand officers, which was adopted.

We find nothing else in these proceedings that would interest our readers.

THE GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF ENGLAND
AND WALES, AND THE COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES OF
THE BRITISH CROWN

met in Quarterly Communication September 6, and December 6, 1898, and February 28, and June 6, 1899. The Earl of Euston, Pro. Grand Master, who presided in the absence of the Prince of Wales who is Grand Master, announced the death of the Earl of Lathom, P. G. M. An entry was ordered made on the minutes lamenting his death and expressing their appreciation of his excellent qualities.

The General Board stated that their attention had been directed to a body of Craft Brethren in Ashton-under-Lyne and other towns in Cheshire and East Lancashire, who profess to work the Mark Degree under the style and title of "The Honourable United Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of the Ashton-under-Lyne District." They are informed that the Lodge is reported to have been founded towards the end of last century by a non-commissioned officer who had received the Mark Degree in India and that it was originally called "The Mark Link and Ark," and afterwards "The Dunkinfield

Lodge," "The Cheshire Mark Lodge," and "The Travelling Mark Lodge." The records of the Lodge, however, only date back to July 11, 1830. It has always met, and still meets, quarterly on a Sunday afternoon, under the Warrant of some Cheshire or East Lancashire Craft Lodge. The Craft Lodge is first opened in the three degrees and in the third degree the W. Mark Master enters and takes the chair. The candidates are balloted for and afterwards the Mark Lodge is opened and they are advanced.

In 1870, the M. W. Bro. Canon Portal, G. M., and the then Grand Secretary, approached these brethren with a view to their giving their allegiance to Grand Lodge, and a Warrant of Confirmation was offered them free of cost, with the understanding that all their members should be registered at a nominal fee, but the Funeral Fund seemed to stand in the way and the negotiations failed.

Several brethren have privately interested themselves to bring about an understanding with this so-called Grand Lodge, but to no purpose, and on March 3, 1899, the Secretary was informed that, unless submission was made, the Board would have no alternative but to declare them not to be a legitimate body working the Mark Degree, but a spurious and clandestine body, and to issue an edict prohibiting all Masonic intercourse between them and the brethren under the Jurisdiction of Grand Lodge, and further that this edict would not issue until May 1st.

The Secretary replied under date of March 22, 1899, that "an edict such as you threaten can only very slightly effect a small number of our brethren," and asks the Board what they have to suggest.

He was informed under date of April 7, 1899, that the Board had nothing to add to their former communication, and that

any fresh matter should reach them before April 30th. To this no reply was received. The Board therefore recommended the Grand Lodge to declare

“That the body styling itself ‘The Honourable United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Mark Master Masons, Ashton District,’ is a spurious and clandestine body, and all members of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, are hereby prohibited from visiting or countenancing such body, or from receiving any member thereof as a visitor or otherwise in any Lodge of Mark Master Masons under this jurisdiction.”

The recommendation was adopted.

Hiram Lodge, No. 13, reported to the Board that Bro. Walter Hill had been installed in the Chair without a dispensation from the M. W. Grand Master, he not being a Master or Past Master of a Craft Lodge (Art. 99,) and having expressed their great regret for the irregularity, the Board ruled that the Lodge be fined one guinea and be directed to apply at once for a dispensation, to be dated *nunc pro tunc*, and that at the next regular meeting of the Lodge Bro. Walter Hill be re-obligated in the presence of a Board of Installed Masters, and that this decision be read in open Lodge at the next regular meeting.

The Board earnestly called the attention of all Installing Masters to the absolute necessity of ascertaining that the Master elect is duly qualified as an Installed Master of a Craft Lodge, or, failing the qualification; that a dispensation has been obtained.

We have no doubt the Lodge deserved censure, but the fine grates harshly upon our American sensibilities.

H. R. H., Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, Grand Master;
C. Fitzgerald Matier, Grand Secretary.

For the first time since the writer has been engaged in this work he has received, and therefore has been able to review, the proceedings of every Grand Chapter assigned to him. It is gratifying to be able to submit a full report. He hopes his colleagues have been as fortunate and that as long as we continue to be reviewers the proceedings will come to us as promptly as they have this year.

M. H. H.

FLORIDA.

The Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of the State of Florida, assembled in its Fifty-third Annual Convocation in Masonic Temple, in the City of Jacksonville, on Tuesday, May 9, A. D. 1899, A. I., 2429.

The Grand High Priest, Wilber P. Webster, delivered the annual address. He speaks with earnest sympathy of the death of Past Grand High Priest, William A. McLean, whose Masonic Record he touches upon as follows:

“Companion McLean was too well known to all to need any eulogy from me. His long, honorable and active Masonic career made him well known, not only to the Fraternity of this State, but of other jurisdictions. He had filled, with credit to himself and honor to the Fraternity, nearly if not all of the positions of trust in the gift of his brethren and Companions. In the Lodge from the lowest office to that of Grand Master, which office he held during the years 1878, 1879 and 1880. In the Chapter to the office of Grand High Priest, which he filled during the years 1881 and 1882. In the Commandery to that of Grand Commander in 1895. At the time of his death he was Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery, and Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, A. A. S. R. of this State. The Grand Chapter has lost one of its most beloved Companions, and the State one of its brightest Masons.”

We note that he appointed as Representative of the Grand Chapter of Florida to the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, March 14, 1899, Henry Oscar Kline, Grand Scribe, of Pittsburg.

His visitations were many and agreeable, profitable alike to the visitor and visitees.

He says anent the non-recording of "Marks:"

"A regulation was adopted by you last year in regard to the recording of "Marks." I find that it has accomplished very little thus far, and it is my opinion that this record will never be satisfactory until we follow the example of some of our sister Grand Chapters, and make it compulsory upon the candidate to choose and record his "Mark" before he is allowed to receive the Royal Arch Degree.

How a solemn promise to do a certain thing in a certain time can be so lightly cast aside is beyond comprehension.

There should be no evasion of this. Either eliminate the recording of "Marks" or make advancement dependent on their having been recorded.

Companion Wetherell, of Florida Grand Chapter, presented the following amendment to the Constitution, which was referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence:

The Royal Arch Degree shall not be conferred upon any candidate who has not selected and recorded his "Mark." The High Priest of every Chapter before conferring the Royal Arch Degree shall ask the Secretary in open Chapter if the candidate has had his "Mark" recorded.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report, which was received and adopted:

"Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence would respectfully report that since our last Convocation the Chairman, M. E. William A. McLean, departed this life, and the other members of the committee not having met, are unable to make a full report on this important matter, and what had been done by our Chairman is not in our possession."

Florida Grand Chapter proposes to amend Article I, Section 4, of the Constitution to read as follows: "The Grand Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter shall be held in the city of Jacksonville, on the second Tuesday in May of each year, at 10 o'clock A. M."

James Carnell, Grand High Priest; Wilber P. Webster, Grand Secretary.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

The Thirtieth Triennial (The Centennial) Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, was held in the Masonic Temple, in the city of Baltimore, Maryland, beginning on Tuesday, October 12, Anno Inventionis, 2427, Anno Domini, 1897, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

A fine stipple and line portrait of General Grand High Priest Comp. George L. McCahan adorns this volume.

This imposing volume of 416 pages lay upon our table like an incubus until we took courage and opened its covers.

Then, like the fourteen little thin bugs caught out in a shower,

“We smelt it, we tasted it—
Yes indeed it's nice.
Leaflet after leaflet
Vanished in a trice,

and then again like the Bowery boys at the dinner,

“We ate everything we found on the bill of fare
And then looked on the back to see if any more was there.”

Comp. George L. McCahan, General Grand High Priest read his address. It is a stately, retrospective, historical and statistical paper.

Pennsylvania had the honor of a cordial and fraternal invitation to be present at this Triennial and Centennial Anniversary.

Forty-three Grand Chapters are comprised in the Jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter.

Dues and fees received since the last Triennial report amounted to \$7,132.21.

The report of the Committee on Jurisprudence approved the action of the General High Priest in suspending the Charter of Chapultepec Chapter of the City of Mexico, and this report was adopted as read.

The next meeting of the General Grand Chapter will be held in September, A. D. 1900, at Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Centennial observances were very interesting and included a poem by Comp. James R. Brewer entitled, somewhat lengthily,

"The Century of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America."

It is written in the familiar Iambic pentameter.

"The centuries are marching to the music of the spheres,
Each a footprint of Jehovah on the endless path of years;
Down the vista of eternity, where human vision fails,
Lie those countless steps of Deity, where human nature pales
'Till they reach down from the dawn of time unto the recent years,
Each a consecrated measure in the rhythm of the spheres;
Each cycle to the ear of God a pleasing melody,
To whom a hundred years is as the glimmer of a day.

* * * * * * *

For man was chained in ignorance, in superstition worn,
And the world ne'er knew what freedom meant 'till Masonry was born."

Comp. Brewer was also the author of the Centennial hymn—the music doubtless being by D. Henry Sanders.

Past General Grand High Priest, the veteran Comp. Josiah H. Drummond of Maine, presented the historical address, which we would like to quote entire.

He holds "that the formerly prevailing theory, that the Royal Arch, was a part of the Master's degree is without foundation. There is not only no evidence in its support, but the whole known history of the degree is in direct conflict with the theory." * * *

"The first known mention of it is an incidental allusion but in 1744 ; it was then a '*side degree*' not recognized by any of the Masonic governing bodies; it was evidently conferred by the possessors of it 'after their manner' and without regard to any rules other than those of their own making, precisely as 'side degrees' always have been, and now are, conferred." * * *

"The first mention of Royal Arch Masonry in connection with the 'Ancients' is found in DERMOTT'S record of March 4, 1752. This mention of it is made in such a manner as to show that the degree was then a side degree, but well known, and deemed a 'step' higher than the Lodge Degrees."

"It is generally accepted as true that the degree was then conferred 'in the Lodge.' Of course, Masonically speaking, that was impossible, and my conclusion is that the statement is not true in any proper sense, but has led to erroneous theories as to the relations between the Symbolic and the Capitular Degrees. No exhaustive examination as I have been able to make, leads to the result that *the actual presence of a lodge charter was regarded as sufficient authority for conferring any degree claimed to be Masonic*; that the Grand Lodges, tacitly at least, recognized the Royal Arch as a Masonic Degree, and allowed Lodges to permit the use of their charters for the purpose of conferring it." * * *

"In 1790, St. Andrew's Lodge, in Boston, voted: That the Royal Arch Lodge *be indulged with the use of the* charter of St. Andrew's Lodge so long as the majority of the members of the Royal Arch Lodge are members of St. Andrew's Lodge."

"In Pennsylvania, previously to 1795, the Royal Arch Degree had been conferred by Brethren, having present a Lodge charter which gave express authority to confer the Symbolic Degrees without any mention of any others."

"In 1806," this history goes on to state, "the General Grand Chapter was the only sovereign and independent governing body of Royal Arch Masonry in the country. A Grand Chapter existed in Pennsylvania, but it was subordinate to the Grand Lodge."

But we must stop quoting. If we had space we would include the whole of this admirable history.

The sub-committees' reports, the tributes to illustrious dead, and the report of the Committee on Finance are all interesting papers.

The General Grand Chapter had a balance of \$17,842.76 in cash and invested.

The Masonic courtesies on this occasion were all that could be desired.

The volume closes with a reprint of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter and a Digest of Decisions.

A copious index facilitates references.

Comp. Reuben C. Lemmon, General Grand High Priest;
Comp. Christopher G. Fox, General Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA.

The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for the State of Georgia, met in the Seventy-seventh Annual Convocation, in the Masonic Temple in the city of Macon, at ten o'clock A. M. Wednesday, April 26, A. D., 1899, A. I., 2429.

The Grand High Priest Henry C. Burr, delivered the annual address. He speaks feelingly of the dead.

He made twenty-one visitations.

Of the state of the craft he has to say:

"The low price of our great staple has made our financial condition so that there has not been the increase of Capitular Masons that I at first anticipated, yet I can report a moderately prosperous year in our noble Order. Owing to my accident, which has caused me to lose about half of my time, I have been prevented from devoting to the Craft that attention which I would love to have given it. I have succeeded in reviving eight or ten Chapters, and was in hopes that I would be able to report as many more. I have been indulgent with the Chapters in arrears, but it is time for us to take the drones out of the hive."

He says in conclusion,

"Masonry is Masonry. The name is the synonym of a good deed, an upright life. The definition of the word is beyond etymological research. Practically and theoretically it is the same. The Mæson of the Lodge room is the Mason at home ; in all his dealings with his fellow-men is seen the application of his first lesson. When the journey is finished, he, peacefully waiting, awakens to the realization of his rewards for the deeds drafted on life's trestle-board, and closes his eyes in sleep. Let us then seek the ceremonial exemplification and follow it."

They have a Committee on Relief in the Grand Chapter of Georgia which submits the following sententious report :

"Your Committee on Relief submit the following report :

We find that there is no business to come before this Committee.

Respectfully submitted."

The Committee on Finance recommend the payment of one hundred dollars to the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

This makes the work interesting to the Chairman, at least.

"*Resolved*, That all Chapters in default either in payment of its dues or in making its returns, be required to do so within the next sixty days or in default thereof that the Grand High Priest arrest the charter of each Chapter so in default, and report his action to our next Annual Convocation."

We have devoted some little thought to the above. The resolution says or seems to say that a Chapter "in default, &c., &c., be required to do so (i. e. default) within the next sixty days," &c., &c., and if it don't default "in default thereof the Grand High Priest shall arrest the charter of each Chapter so in default," &c.

Where was Lindley Murray, anyhow ?

Companion W. S. Ramsey presents the Report on Foreign Correspondence.

We now know by reading his New Jersey report that his initials "W. S." do not stand for "Well Selected" however true to the print these names might be.

"We accept the compliment paid by our good Companion Edwards in construing the W. S. in our name as standing for "Well Selected," but as we have retained the "Whiteford Smythe" for fifty-eight years, we will let it be inscribed on the old slab that awaits us in a few years."

We trust Old Mortality may have a long wait before inscribing the name of W. S. Ramsey on any slab.

Under New South Wales he says,

"From statement of assets and liabilities we are informed that there is a balance to the credit of this Grand Chapter of £293.19s.6d., or about \$3,600.00."

How do you figure it, Comp. Ramsey? Wouldn't about \$1430.00 be more like it?

Pennsylvania's proceedings evidently did not reach Comp. Ramsey in time for review.

Henry C. Burr, M. E. Grand High Priest; William A. Wolihin, R. E. Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS.

The Fiftieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Illinois, convened in the Masonic Temple, City of Chicago, on Thursday, the 26th day of October, A. D. 1899, A. I. 2429, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The E. Grand Chaplin Comp. Rev. William M. Poe, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God! The Great Architect, Builder and Ruler of the Universe! From everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God. We approach Thine altar; We thank Thee that Thou art merciful and kind, plenteous in Grace. That Thou art a rewarder of those who diligently seek Thee. We thank Thee for this our Annual Convocation; for these Companions representing the various Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in Illinois; we thank Thee for these Chapters represented; we would ask Thy blessing upon the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois; upon every member of the same. We invoke Thy blessing upon the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America. We thank Thee for the work that has been done by our order;

that Thou hast been with Thy servants as of old. While they toiled in the quarries, and wrought as only Master Workmen can, building a Temple to which the eyes of the world has been turned, that shall continue to live in the minds of the people, Thou didst remember them. We thank Thee that in Thy Providence Thou hast been with Thy servants, our Companions, in the past and also in the present. Help us, O God, while we toil, building character that shall be observed in this world, and continue in remembrance; that the work done may be true work, tried work, acceptable to the Great Architect, who is building a Temple into which these stones are being fitted. Wilt Thou direct, O God, so that we may have clear conception of Thy will concerning us; we may so build as to honor Thy name. That we may build up our beloved order. O God, so direct our Grand Officers, especially our most Excellent High Priest, during this convocation, that Thy name may be glorified in all the proceedings. Help all who are here assembled to so conduct themselves as to reflect honor and glory to Thy great name. Bless the homes that have been bereft of a Companion during the last year. Bless the widow and the orphan. Beget to Thyself a great name because of the true and tried men who are builders of character. The temple of old has fallen into decay. May we build for eternity, so that when our work is complete we may be gathered to Thyself in peace. Bless now, we beseech Thee, the work done during this convocation. May we dwell together in unity, reflecting credit to ourselves, honor to our organization, and glory to God. Finally, may we be gathered to Thyself at last. We ask; in Thy name. Amen.

Grand High Priest Comp. Wm. B. Grimes delivered the annual address which covers the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in Illinois.

Under dispensations we note that he granted a dispensation to form Park Chapter at Roger's Park within the City of Chicago having the consent of Columbia Chapter, No. 202 and Ivory Park Chapter No. 195, and against the consent of Evanston Chapter, No. 144, of Evanston.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom this part of the M. E. Grand High Priest actions was referred, reported as follows:

“Your Committee to whom was referred the action of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest in issuing a dispensation to form a new Chapter to be called “Park Chapter” would fraternally report: That while the Grand High Priest may have acted within the *letter* of the law, it was a violation of the *spirit* thereof, and a violation of the fundamental law of Masonry, which forbids the invasion of the jurisdiction of a body without its consent; that the committee’s construction of the section of the law under which this dispensation issued, is ‘Concurrent jurisdiction within the corporate limits of said city,’ and not as against Chapters in adjoining cities.

For the purpose of obviating any ambiguity in the law, your Committee recommends that Section IV, Article II of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter be amended as follows: Strike out all the words contained in parenthesis in said section, to wit: ‘Except in cities where Chapters have concurrent jurisdiction, the recommendation of the nearest two Chapters only shall be required.’

In regard to the case under consideration, your Committee recommend that the matter of issuing a charter to said ‘Park Chapter’ be referred to the careful consideration of the Committee on Chapters Under Dispensation.”

A minority report was submitted as follows:

“The undersigned, a minority of your Committee on Jurisprudence, fraternally report in reference to the action of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest in issuing his dispensation to form ‘Park Chapter,’ at Roger’s Park, that the Most Excellent High Priest acted within the provisions of the law, and therefore recommends that said action be approved; and further, that the policy or wisdom of continuing the present dispensation, or the granting of a charter to said Park Chapter be referred to the Committee on Chapters Under Dispensation for their careful consideration.”

It appears further that

“The records of this chapter (Park) are exceptionally well kept, both in form and execution, with one exception only of failure to record the dispensation under which the Companions were authorized to organize and work.”

And the Committee on Chapters under Dispensation recommend that a charter be granted.

We note the following decisions :

No. 1. I was asked for a ruling in the following case, where the Chapter By-laws required that the fee shall accompany all petitions for the degrees, to wit :

“Three petitions were received by our Chapter, and no fee accompanied either one of them. Are these petitions valid? Suppose the Chapter did receive them—and without fee—and the applicants were rejected. Had they legally applied for, or signed and made application, and cannot they sign another petition and with fee accompanying, be balloted for?” (Supposed to mean in less than one year.)

Answer : I hold that the petitions were valid, as to the rights of the petitioners, having been accepted by the Chapter ; the supposition being that the petitioners had complied with all the requirements of the Chapter so far as made known to them. And had they been elected and received all the degrees, no one could call in question their legal status as R. A. Masons on account of the derelection of the Secretary in presenting their petitions without the fee.

In that case the petitioners, having lost no rights thereby, would on the other hand, if rejected, be subject to the same restrictions in presenting another petition as one whose petition accompanied by the fee would be if rejected.

No. 2. Question: “If, after a candidate has received the first part of the Mark Master’s Degree, but has not received the obligation, objections are made to the High Priest, do the objections hold the same as if he had not started taking the degrees? If it does not, and the reasons for objections are not given, must the work be stopped until the next regular meeting of the Chapter?”

Answer : After the candidate has received part of the Mark Master Degree, he has acquired certain rights ; and the Mark Master’s Lodge has the right in his behalf to demand the nature of the objections, and then and there to pass upon their sufficiency, or gravity ; and if deemed of a light and frivolous character, should proceed with the remaining portion of the degree, and likewise with the remaining degrees. On the other hand, if deemed sufficiently grave, further work on the candidate should be suspended until investigation is had, and the candidate given a chance to defend. When such further action should follow as the nature of the case will warrant.

No. 3. When Chapter "A" inadvertently invades the jurisdiction of Chapter "B" and confers all the degrees on a candidate, Chapter "A" is liable to Chapter "B" for the amount the candidate would have paid Chapter "B" if he had taken the degrees in Chapter "B," but the candidate becomes the member of Chapter "A" where he receives the degrees.

No. 4. A Royal Arch Mason having been expelled by his Lodge and accordingly under suspension in his Chapter, and being restored by the Grand Lodge is not liable for dues during such suspension.

No. 5. Submitted September 19 for ruling, to-wit, "On April 3, 1899, Comps. — and — were restored in — Chapter No. — by vote (show of hands), and the point has been raised that these Companions had been illegally restored and must repetition the Chapter and be elected by ballot, and that during the time between April 3 and September 4 several petitions were rejected at stated convocations at which one or both of the above named Companions was present, and for this reason rejections were illegal and the brethren should have a right to petition the Chapter for the degrees. Will you kindly give us a ruling on the above and oblige?"

Answer: The vote by show of hands restoring the Companions was clearly an error of the Chapter, and had the question been raised and objections made at the time, or within a reasonable time thereafter, the vote might and should have been declared void and after due notice ordered retaken by ballot, as the law requires. In this case, which happened April 3 last and no objections appearing at the time, and there being no evidence of a negative vote being cast, and no question as to the legal force or legality of the vote being raised until after the stated convocation of said Chapter, held September 4 following, a period of five months; and the Chapter having permitted the Companions so declared restored to exercise all the rights and privileges of members in good standing, up to and after Sept. 4, without question; and said restored members having on their part in good faith complied with all the requirements of the Chapter, I shall have to decide that they were, by tacit consent of the Chapter, to all intents and purposes restored to all the rights and privileges of R. A. Masons in good standing and that the results following are binding on the Chapter and on all parties interested.

No. 6. Submitted Sept. 19 for ruling, to-wit. At a stated convocation of — Chapter No. — R. A. M., held Sept. 4, 1899, the ballot having been spread for the election of a candidate to receive the degrees, none of the black cubes belonging to the Chapter were voted, but five black cubes (four of wood and one of rubber) were found in the bottom of the box among

the white balls voted by the the members. And a member asserts that he knows that all the five were voted by one member and wishes to know if this is sufficient evidence on which to prefer charges of unmasonic conduct. And also as to what relation the brother whose petition was so black-balled stands to the Chapter.

Answer : Any member who would cast five ballots of any kind in voting on the petition of a candidate for the degrees, or for any other purpose, is guilty of gross unmasonic conduct. And if the Chapter has unmistakable evidence of the identity of the party he should be severely disciplined by his Chapter. The party so voting the five black cubes evidently intended to reject the candidate, which, as a member, he had a right to do. And while his manner of exercising his privilege was grossly unmasonic and reprehensible, I am forced to decide that the candidate was, as declared by the High Priest presiding, rejected.

Like Banquo's ghost this substitute question will not down. Here it is in its most pathetic phase.

Most Excellent Companion Pace, in his address as Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, earnestly recommended the use of substitutes in conferring the R. A. degree, and gave very excellent reasons therefor, but the Grand Chapter at that time did not see fit to adopt his recommendation. I now earnestly hope that the Grand Chapter will again consider this matter, as in my judgment every year furnishes additional reasons for the sanction of this practice. This was once the practice in this Grand Jurisdiction, is sanctioned by the General Grand Chapter, and by a large majority of the Grand Chapters of America. In my opinion, this practice, if adopted, will at once give life to many small, weak Chapters, now almost, if not quite dormant, and many others struggling for a bare existence. It is a well known fact that many of these weak Chapters drag along with one or two candidates, waiting for the requisite number, until one or both die, or move away, without receiving that which was promised them when they petitioned. Now, if these Chapters were permitted to use substitutes this would not be the case. Every exaltation adds life to *any* Chapter, especially to small, weak Chapters. Now if these Chapters could have three exaltations—*three red letter days* instead of only *one*—there would be three times the life and vigor infused into them as would be with only one ; besides it would be correspondingly beneficial to the officers and to the members of such Chapters. Then, under this practice, those desiring to petition for the degrees could do so with the hope of getting the R. A. degree during their natural lives, for they generally learn, by some means and in some way, how things drag in the Chapter under the present practice. Accordingly, many

who are now anxious for the degrees withhold their petitions until they can hear from their neighbors, and then wait until their neighbors get ready.

But it will be urged by some one that the law says "no Chapter in this jurisdiction shall confer the R. A. degree on more or less than three *actual* candidates at a time." True ; but the law is susceptible of amendment ; the *Ritual* does not say *actual*. But there *must* be no more or less than three candidates—three eligible, worthy and well qualified persons. Each and all must be properly prepared and presented; each must answer for himself; each must comply with all the requirements of the ceremonies of the degree; each must perform the particular part assigned him; and finally, they jointly and severally accomplish a work requiring the services of three M. E. M's, and who will say that the symbolism of the R. A. is not complete? Supposing one or two of the three had on a former occasion assisted in a similar work, or had previously, more than once, carried up work for inspection, does that fact disqualify him or them from rendering a like service when required by the Chapter?

M. E. Companion Drummond, of Maine, one of the most distinguished authorities on all branches of Masonry in America, or in the world, on this subject says:

"The prohibition against the use of substitutes makes the technical form the important matter, rather than the symbolism—the letter, rather than the spirit. The object of having three is found solely in the symbolism. Why, then, sacrifice the spirit 'which maketh alive' for the letter 'which killeth'?"

And then ! and then ! after the foregoing the Committee on Jurisprudence offer to amend By-Laws so as to permit the use of ONE substitute.

If one why not two, the highest possible number in conferring the actual degree of R. A. ?

This is done in Pennsylvania and the quality of the work and the resulting material for the Temple does not deteriorate thereby.

The finances are in a good condition.

"The balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer (\$16,882.28) is subject to the appropriations made at this Grand Convocation, the mileage and per diem of committees and representatives and current expenses of the Grand Chapter for the ensuing year."

The Committee on Accounts evidently want to see the color of somebody's else money before voting any from the Grand Chapter's balance :

" With regard to the recommendation of the Grand High Priest that the Masonic Home for the Aged should also "receive such financial aid as may be consistent with the state of our treasury," your committee can see no reason to reconsider its statement of last year. We appreciate his feelings in the matter and believe that such a charity is a worthy one, and consequently would unite with the M. E. Grand High Priest in his appeal for assistance to the subordinate Chapters and their constituents, but we can not relieve ourselves of the opinion that until liberal response is made by the subordinate Chapters and their constituents we as the Committee on Accounts of this Grand Chapter do not feel justified in recommending an appropriation at the present time."

It is related of Stephen Girard that he once stopped to see what caused the gathering of a crowd to find that a poor drayman's horse had fallen dead. The crowd sympathized with the poor drayman and expressions of pity were heard on all sides. Girard spoke up "How much do you pity him? I pity him fifty dollars." It is needless to say the price of a new horse was speedily raised.

Comp. John M. Pearson, as usual submits a readable and interesting Report on Correspondence and what's more he wants it read, for he says :

"Your Committee on Correspondence respectfully submits his fourteenth annual report, with the fond hope that you will read it—not now, but at your leisure, and hand it over to be read by some other zealous brother anxious to participate in our labors."

Under Canada we quote :

"More than \$400 00 was granted in relief to about twenty applicants in various amounts, and the committee said :

Your committee again call the attention of Grand Chapter to the fact that the amounts contributed by private Chapters to beneficiaries is not at all in proportion to the amounts asked for and granted by Grand Chapter."

In some cases no aid whatever is given by private Chapters, and your committee feel that in the future, where such aid is not given, no claims to Grand Chapter should be entertained."

On which Comp. Pearson comments as follows :

The above only shows the difficulty of satisfactorily discharging the delicate work of *quasi* public charity. For ourselves, we have always thought the Masonic obligation was purely personal. In these latter days of consolidations and organizations, something more effective is often necessary and seems to be demanded. In some of our larger cities "Boards of Relief" are formed by the voluntary action of the various bodies, but in whatever way the attempt is made the result is seldom satisfactory for any length of time, and yet the need is and will be perpetual.

"The poor ye have always with you." Let us remember that no power on earth can grant a dispensation freeing us from our personal obligations.

Commenting on Connecticut's Centennial, Comp. Pearson says :

"The 'after dinner' speeches were, like the dinner, 'very good,' joyful, hopeful and exalting. A centennial might naturally cause one to feel old, but, reading of this one, we feel ourselves younger, with plenty of work before us and no prospect of loosing our job, and no disposition to strike."

Re dependent membership Comp. Pearson thus forcibly presents his views, first quoting Comp. Harrison of Delaware, who says :

"We respectfully ask the Companion (Pearson) for his authority for branding dependent membership a *modern fad*. We fail to notice anything modern about it, and further we refuse to accept the doctrine as a fad. We are unalterably in favor of dependent membership. We think that a Mason should as soon forsake the mother that gave him birth, as to forsake the Lodge that made it possible for him to proceed further in our organization."

To which Comp. Pearson replies :

"Our authority is of two kinds, historical and etymological. During ninety-three years of Masonic teaching in this jurisdiction no such lesson has been learned, or taught. We are loyal to the old charges—all of them—and seek not, by 'pains and penalties,' to enforce what should be a matter of free will. Masons held by such a tie are of small value to the Craft, and do not deserve the name of 'free.' But not only in our own jurisdiction has this been law, but in some of the oldest Lodges in our land, and in all

the early Lodges of England and Scotland, Masons were made without any regard to future membership anywhere. Membership was a matter for after consideration.

Undoubtedly this grew to be an evil, and the 'ancient charge' was approved as a wholesome corrective, but the custom of making unaffiliated Masons was older than the charge, otherwise no such charge would have been made. In view of this we call the notion 'modern.' We call it a 'fad' because we regard it as a 'passing fancy,' a 'capricious hobby,' a 'whim'—see Standard Dictionary. The argument and illustration given seems to us inappropriate. Filial devotion enforced by statute would be a paltry affair, not worthy of the name. Forty-six years of continued membership in the dear old Lodge where we were made, and to which we owe more than tongue can tell, protest against any compulsion.

Furthermore, having served our day and generation and gone on step to step, we expect to hear the reasonable question, 'What part of the work are you willing to undertake?' and our answer is ready, 'that part that needs us most, without the hope of fee or reward.' Furthermore, we do not believe that Masonry is better taught, or better learned, under such compulsory rules, nor that we in this Grand Jurisdiction have a larger proportion of idlers than elsewhere. Reduced to its lowest terms, it is a mere matter of dollars and cents for the benefit of those who, with one exception, have never asked for it. It savors of 'commercialism,' the foulest blot on our civic life to-day. We didn't write the above with a view to convince Comp. Harrison, for he says he is 'unalterably in favor,' etc., but because we rather love to give a reason for the faith we have held for many years; but we find so much of interest in this report and so many points of agreement that we close with regret."

Comp. Pearson evidently has the judicial mind as witness the following taken from under Kansas:

"Suppose that body, (the Grand Encampment) in its wisdom, should say that Master Masons were eligible to the orders of Knighthood, what business would it be to the Chapter? We might regret it, but we could not control it. An Eminent Past Grand Master once said to the writer that he wished such were the case. We, of course, did not agree, but we have heard in our own Grand Lodge and Chapter that there 'was no Masonry *per se* outside of the first three degrees.' With this too we did not agree, and helped combat the idea, and met the approval of our Grand Chapter in so doing. But we have no sympathy with any compulsory measures, in any branch of the Order."

We clip the following under Nebraska :

"M. E. Comp. Charles J. Phelps again presented the report on correspondence, covering one hundred and nine pages of 'clippings and comments'—both very good. In his introduction we have an essay on Masonry as a 'progressive science,' and out of this he tries to defend the policy of their law that prevents the installation of a duly elected High Priest because some anointed High Priest objects to his consecration. We have always conceived the Order of High Priesthood to stand, in the Chapter, similar to that of Past Master in the Symbolic Lodge. An order that belonged 'of right' to any duly elected High Priest and could be conferred by any three Past High Priests, whenever and wherever assembled. Now for any little convention of High Priests to assume to set aside the will of a chartered Chapter, seems to us like 'the tail wagging the dog.' But Comp. Phelps says it's none of our business, and maybe it isn't, but we hate to see our friends do foolish things, even if we haven't any right to prevent it. Illinois for '97 was fully and fairly noticed."

We clip this under Ohio :

"Under Virginia he also exposes the animus of the 'Edict of non-intercourse,' issued in '97 against the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, and revoked by Grand Chapter of Virginia as soon as it had a chance. It was the same old 'derelict,' drifting in our high seas, and called 'Cerneauism.'"

And now comes Pennsylvania, most kindly and fully reviewed with ample extracts.

Re Jurisdiction he quotes the then Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania as follows :

"I have decided that in accordance with section 9, page 51, of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, that a Chapter nearest the place of residence of the petitioner is the nearest by line of travel and not by a straight line."

This has now been reversed by M. E. Grand High Priest Comp. Michael Wm. Jacobs, and action of Grand Chapter after Report of Committee.

We now conform to the good old geometrical axiom that "a straight line is the shortest distance between two points."

Under Virginia relating to the subject, Comp. Pearson aptly says :

“He (the M. E. Grand High Priest) also recommended a change in law defining the jurisdictional lines of subordinate Chapters, allowing the ‘usual mode of travelling’ to be taken as the rule. The Committee’s report on this was favorable and was adopted. We do not think this action wise, and in our Grand Chapter would be wholly insufficient to change the law. The building of a railroad, or even the opening of a county road, or building a bridge might change the Jurisdiction of the Chapter. Better by far, in our opinion, let the law stand and then be liberal in granting ‘waivers’ to suit necessities, with no reference to the money consideration.”

Thank you, Comp. Pearson, for quoting us so fully as to the history and status of the New Masonic Temple Loan.

We quote your conclusion entire.

“We close this report with mingled feelings of joy and sorrow. We are glad to say that our fraternity is stronger than ever, both in numbers and in moral force, and yet, when we recall the names of Companions, with whom we have counseled for years, who in the past year have ‘crossed the divide,’ we are sad—not so much for them as for those of us who still remain with our work not yet completed and no source of help from them. For many years the whole fraternity has felt their genial presence, has shared their active sympathy and been helped by their wise counsel and experience. For them

‘Earth’s last picture is painted,
And the tubes are twisted and dried.’

In our own jurisdiction four well known and well beloved Companions have passed the fourth vail. Two of them were Past Grand Masters, two were Past Grand High Priests, and two were Past Grand Wardens in our Grand Lodge, while one was yet in active service among our Knights. They have entered where

‘Only the Master shall praise us,
And only the Master shall blame ;
And no one shall work for money,
And no one shall work for fame;
But each for the joy of the working
And each, in his separate star,
Shall draw the thing as he sees it,
For the God of things as they are.’ ”

Comp. Nathaniel Bowditch, M. E. Grand High Priest;
Comp. Gilbert W. Barnard, R. E. Grand Secretary.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

The Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Indian Territory held its Tenth Annual Convocation at Chickasha, Indian Territory, commencing Wednesday, September 13th, 1899, A. I. 2429, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The address of the Grand High Priest, Phil C. Rosenbaum, who was absent, was read.

Business exigencies complicated with illness was responsible for this absence. He says:

"I have no doubt that the affairs of the Grand Chapter have been ably administered by R. E. Comp. George W. Spencer, Deputy Grand High Priest, and M. E. Comp. Joseph S. Morrow, Grand Secretary, and that their reports will show increased zeal and activity for the betterment of Capitular Masonry among all the Companions."

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Comp. J. S. Murrow who is also R. E. Grand Secretary.

I wonder what part of Ireland did he come from. His lips have evidently kissed the Blarney Stone. He says:

"The following Report on Correspondence is submitted with the earnest hope that it will be of benefit to the Companions of this jurisdiction. We have faithfully endeavored to cull from each of the Grand Jurisdictions received what would edify and instruct those for whom this Report was especially prepared. *Personally, we very much enjoy coming in touch with the Reporters' Guild, for they are choice company.*"

Under Delaware, and relating to dependent membership we quote:

“ Under California, he says : ‘ When a man so far forgets himself as to disobey the law he has so solemnly promised to obey, then it is high time to teach him the difference between a molasses barrel and the bung hole.’ ‘ Comp. Harrison is a staunch believer in ‘ dependent membership ’ and the actual presence of the charter. Well, we see where you are right, Comp. Harrison, on both points. The essence of Masonry is found in the Symbolic Degrees, and ’twere well indeed if all were truly MASTER Masons before they attempted to peer further into the mysteries of the inner temple.’ ”

Pennsylvania has attention at the hand of this excellent reviewer, but we do wish he would instruct his printer to put his quotations in a different kind of type. This would not only facilitate gleaning the Report but prevent the possibility of giving credit to others for his own keen observation.

Under Wisconsin we quote extract and comment on the subject of tetotalism and the varying views of our P. G. H. Priest Comp. Henderson’s remarks on that vexed topic.

“ Comp. Joseph S. Murrow, of whom we have heard ever since we have known anything of Indian Territory Masons, gives a report on Correspondence, only to be criticized for its brevity. Notwithstanding which remark, we find something wherein we can dissent :

“ Commenting at some length upon the Grand Chapter’s position in regard to the temperance question, the writer says : ‘ Freemasonry is not a total abstinence society, nor can it suppress the liquor business, and we think had better let it alone.’ Oh, Companion, think well before such cowardly advice is given. Because an evil cannot be overcome at once, is that sufficient reason for doing nothing to mitigate the evil? We hope Companion Henderson will carefully consider the unanimous action taken by the Indian Territory Master Masons at their last Annual Communication. Surely no Mason would wish to bring upon himself the ‘ woe ’ which surely comes to him who puts the ‘ cup to his brother’s lips.’ Masonry is ever a loser when a wine bibber gains admission to her temples. We count physical perfection of great importance ; how much more important the moral qualifications ! Get on the right side, noble Pennsylvanians !

From the above we infer that Comp. Murrow is of those who confound two utterly distinct principles of temperance and prohibition. Nothing can be found in Comp. Henderson’s remark against the cardi-

nal Masonic virtue of temperance, and nothing to militate against any brother's right to bar from admission one whom Comp. Murrow calls a 'wine bibber,' though we should like a statement of the full meaning of the term.

Well, Brother mine, since absolute prohibition is the only 'temperance' possible to many Masons as well as profanes, we shall continue to advocate 'confounding' the two, and earnestly pray that it may soon become universal. No thinking mind can deny that the liquor question is the most momentous confronting the world. Believing, as we firmly do, that the time will come when no government will legalize the manufacture of liquor, we are deeply desirous of seeing Masonry take her position upon the only safe ground—absolute prohibition. We do not mean in any political sense, but as one of the greatest institutions of all lands, having for its motto the 'Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man,' ever ready to strengthen the weak and lift up the fallen. Pardon us, Companion, if we seem harsh. Every word is written in love "

And this is the conclusion :

The end has come. The journey has been pleasant—especially the company.

I should like to add a topical page or two. Several prominent questions suggest themselves to my mind.

Upon one especially—"Dependent Membership"—would I like to present my views.

One of the strong advocates of dependent membership has passed into the great eternity. I heard William R. Bowen advocate this doctrine in the General Grand Chapter at Denver, Colorado, several years ago. My judgment approved his position and arguments. My opinion has never changed. I believe the Lodge is the foundation of all Masonry, and membership in the Lodge is essential to the best interests of all the other degrees. The Master in the Great Light says : "I am the vine, ye are the branches : he that abideth in me and I in him the same bringeth forth much fruit ; for without me ye can do nothing." Humbly and reverently I use these words to illustrate my opinion that every Mason of every degree should retain vital union with his Lodge.

INDIANA.

The Fifty-Fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Indiana was held in Masonic Temple in the City of Indianapolis, beginning at 2 o'clock, P. M., on Wednesday, the 18th day of October, A. D., 1899, A. I., 2429, it being the "first Wednesday succeeding the third Monday in October."

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Manual M. Fisher, delivered the annual address.

Things are evidently looking up in Indiana, for these are among his opening words:

"This year has been an unusual one. The clouds that obscured the horizon of the manufacturing and commercial interests of our broad expanse of country have been lifted, and the bright rays of prosperity's sun have brought an activity such as none of us can realize. No more do we hear the plaintive cry, 'Give me work at any price, to enable me to protect my own;' but from all parts of our beloved State, from north, from south, from east and west come the joyful notes of happiness, lifting us to peace and contentment."

The address is further occupied with matters of local import, statistics and the usual routine.

A proposition was made to prohibit the receiving of petitions from sojourners and further to require petitioners for the degrees and membership to present themselves within six months for the Mark, and within three months from the time the last degree was conferred, for each succeeding degree. This was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, which reported:

"Against the necessity and policy of adopting said amendment."

We clip this from the Report of the Committee on Charter:

"Your Committee on Charters to whom was referred the amendment to the By-Laws of Fort Wayne Chapter No. 19—respectfully report:

The second proposed amendment presents a question of interest—and it is this:

Can a Chapter provide in its By-Laws that its members upon payment of a stated amount, shall forever thereafter be exempt from the payment of dues to such Chapter—thus creating a life membership?

If this was a question to be decided by the Courts of civil law, it is probable that Chapters would be held to such provision, but such is not the case here.

The question has been passed upon by the Grand Lodge of Indiana, and by it held, that subordinate Lodges could not pass such a By-Law.

We think the By-Law passed by Fort Wayne Chapter No. 19—creating a life-membership by payment of a stated amount, and exempting the Companion so paying from dues thereafter—should be annulled, and we recommend that the action of said Chapter in annulling Section 1 of Article VII be and the same is hereby approved.

The effect of such a By-Law is bad and will destroy a Chapter in time, unless such a Chapter be very large in membership. The Grand Chapter is Supreme, and her edicts are to be obeyed. How such a By-Law was approved we know not, but in our opinion, the same is wrong, contrary to law, and destructive of the health of the Chapter."

To us, this is a most marvellous view to take. Life membership is not only not bad *per se*, but a positive benefit both to the individual and the body; always providing that good business judgment is used in fixing the fee high enough and providing for its immediate permanent investment. Many a Companion has had reason to bless such a provision and that he had foresight enough to avail himself of its privileges when his productive power enabled him to do so.

A life membership fee of \$50,—invested at 4% yields \$2.00 per annum, a per capita sum more than sufficient to meet all fixed charges such as Grand Chapter dues, rent and Secretary's salary, and this goes on after the Companion paying the fee is dead.

The incoming M. E. Grand High Priest Comp. Thomas R. Marshall, whose picture adorns this volume, on assuming the Oriental Chair, delivered the following eloquent address:

"I am infinitely your debtor. Standing upon the vantage ground to which I have been elected by your free suffrage, I feel that, more than ever I was before, I am now a child of the sunlight. And while the angels kissed no dimples in my baby cheeks, my good genius gave me that which is far better than physical beauty, the love and confidence of my Masonic brethren. A Hoosier to the manor born and in the manner bred, if there were laid before me all the glittering jewels of renown in Indiana Freemasonry, and I were bade to make my choice for personal adornment and abiding satisfaction, I should unhesitatingly choose that which you have so freely and graciously bestowed upon me. There can be nothing beyond nor more desirable than the Grand High Priesthood of so loyal and distinguished a body of men and Masons—The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Indiana.

But because I said I was a child of the sunlight, do not think that I do not understand the sacred burden of the life I bear, nor the weighty duties which oppress the occupant of this exalted station. When I look around me and observe the learning, zeal and integrity of the living who have preceded me in this position I am amazed at my temerity. And if it be possible for the shades of the dear departed to visit the scenes of their labors, I am overwhelmed with the thought that the spirits of Hacker, Charles and Thomas are gazing down upon me while I seize with puny grasp the emblem of authority.

Companions, I am indeed not unmindful of my weakness and incompetence. I can only hope to preserve the sacred rites and mysteries unspotted by your most loyal co-operation. That was a beautiful custom when a new Emperor ascended the throne of Rome, for the Captain of all the Hosts of that Empire to step forward and, lifting his right hand high to the Immortal Gods, swear to be true and loyal to the Emperor and the

Empire. As he did so, each soldier in all the legions stepped to his side and, holding high his good right hand, cried out, 'This for me! This for me!'

Companions, I cannot offer large knowledge nor ripe experience. The only guerdon of the days to come that I can give you, is to lift my right hand to the one true God and swear that in the year to come I will be true and loyal to the Royal Craft in Indiana. And may I not hope that this my vow, will find an answer in each heart here present sincerely saying 'This for me! This for me!' For all your loving ministrations and gracious kindnesses to me I can only give the poor lip service of a simple 'Thank you.' "

M. E. Grand High Priest Comp. Thomas B. Long presents, as usual, a most excellent Report on Foreign Correspondence.

Under Alabama we quote:

"This note of rejoicing, however, is sadly contrasted by the announcement, immediately following, of the death of Past Grand Scribe Palmer J. Pillans, best known to the Masonic world as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for thirty-one years, possibly the longest continuous service in this most important field of labor to be found in the records of the Royal Craft. If anyone in America has been longer engaged in this splendid line of Masonic work, the chance of such honor probably lies between Comps. William R. Singleton, of the District of Columbia, and Josiah H. Drummond, of Maine.

Comp Pillans passed to his eternal reward on June 22d, 1898, at the grand old age of four score and three years. He was a native of South Carolina, graduated from Charleston College, studied law and pursued its practice for a few years, after which he became a member of a surveying corps in the army of the United States, and saw much service in Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina. This was followed, after an interval of employment as a civil engineer, by enlistment and service as Lieutenant in the Seminole war, after the close of which he took military service in the Republic of Texas, and became a Major in the Texan army. After what is termed 'a successful career in Texas' he removed to Santa Fe, New Mexico, in 1849, and after a residence of three years was appointed Chief Justice of that territory, but he soon after returned to Mobile where he resided throughout the remainder of his life. 'During the war between the States he served as Lieutenant-Colonel of Infantry, and afterwards as Constructing Engineer in the field works around Mobile.' Those of us who for the past twenty years have known this lovable Companion through his

modest, though learned, contributions to Capitular Masonry little imagined that we were communing with one whose life had been so filled with protean incidents, so wonderful in the diversified character of the abilities required of him, and so replete with experiences in science, in judicature, in warfare with savage forces at one time, and in the greater art of military defense against investment and siege, under the highest requirements of modern warfare, at another.

While the proceedings now at hand simply allude to his connection with the Grand Chapter as Past Grand Scribe, the time of his service in the office named is not given, but his long service as Correspondent would indicate it to have been many years ago. His Masonic history is said, however, to have been full of interest, covering a membership in the Grand Lodge of forty years, and his service as Grand Master of Masons in Alabama for two terms, in 1875 and 1877, where 'he was especially loved by all' The last Report on Correspondence ever written by him, and published less than half a year before his death, closed with the genial and hopeful words: 'Adieu, dear Companions, for the nonce. We hope to hear from you and talk with you again.' May the hope that was not fulfilled in this life, have a proper realization in the world to which he has gone."

Under California, we clip the following for the information of those who may not know:

"He also decided that the High Priest of a subordinate Chapter did right in refusing to recognize a Mason of his jurisdiction as a Royal Arch Mason, who obtained that degree during a three-months' visit in Ireland, on the grounds that he should have applied for the Capitular Degrees in this the Chapter of his residence. In making this ruling he said: 'Waiving the question of jurisdiction [upon which the action of the High Priest was based] which, however, I think is correctly stated by yourself, no Mason can be admitted to a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons unless he has received all the preceeding degrees in a just and legally constituted Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.' If in this he refers to the mere privilege of visitation, he overlooked the universal usage by American Chapters of healing a Royal Arch Mason—made under the English system—as to the degrees of Mark Master and Most Excellent Master,—the one of which being, in that country and its non-American provinces, under separate and independent government, and the other belonging only to the American system. And if he refers to affiliation, the same process of healing—before petitioning, however—would equally cure the defect of not having received the degrees,—because it would be a foolish thing to so qualify such a Royal Arch Mason to visit,

and consequently to see these degrees worked, and then require them to be fully conferred upon him as a prerequisite to membership ; for instance, in the very Chapter in which he had seen them conferred."

We have further, this information relative to the elevation of

R. E. Thomas Caswell, who had been Grand Secretary for the period of twenty-one years, resigned his office on February 24, and the report of this action was not only received with profound regret, but steps were taken to present him a suitable testimonial of his long service in this capacity, as well as in appreciation of his distinguished labors in all departments of Masonry. He was also Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, and its Grand Lecturer ever since that time. The cause of this severance—though not stated in these proceedings—is well understood by the Craft in general. On the death of that very great man and Mason, General Albert Pike, a few years ago, he was succeeded as Grand Commander of the A. A. Scottish Rite of the Southern Masonic Jurisdiction by J. C. Batchelor of Louisiana, whose infirmities left him but a brief lease of life, after which that illustrious Mason, Philip C. Tucker, then of Texas, came next into command, only to be soon removed himself by the same inscrutable Providence, and in time was succeeded by Comp. Caswell, whose elevation to the high and most eminent position has necessitated his removal from California to Washington City, District of Columbia, being the Secretary of the Southern Masonic Jurisdiction of the Rite."

Comp. Long stands firmly by the physical perfection Land Mark, as witness the following under Delaware :

"Amen ! to this. And no one will more earnestly repeat this exclamation than Comp. Schultz when the above is read (alas ! that it must be) to him. One of the most threatening and dangerous of all these innovations is the one now being advocated by many (Comp. Harrison among them) that personal compliance with the requirements of the Ritual may be dispensed with in favor of one whose wealth may enable him to purchase a costly artificial limb, but not in favor of the poor man who can only knock at the door with the iron hook he is able to place on the end of his mutilated arm, or step within the portals of the Lodge or Chapter upon the wooden peg with which his limited purse may enable him to supplement his missing foot or absent knee. To maintain the pregnant law—the ancient landmark—in this respect, Comp. Schultz and the present writer stood shoulder to shoulder in the General Grand Chapter in 1874, and, after

one defeat, resumed the contest and secured a postponement of action to the succeeding Triennial, where if we could again have stood side by side who knows but the result might have been different from what it was. A little obstruction to the onward movement of error may turn it into the highway of right. But want of success in the 'General Grand' is no defeat of the principle involved. As to this, each State Grand Chapter is independent or sovereign, and the great majority—if indeed not all—are still maintaining the ancient law and will doubtless continue to obey one of the clearest and most consistent of the established landmarks of Masonry.

Under Illinois re legal residence we have the following :

“Another of his decisions, that ‘the legal residence, the place where one votes, determines the Chapter’s territorial jurisdiction over a brother Master Mason,’ is probably subject to exceptions. One might have residence qualifying him to petition for the degrees, and yet have no residence qualifying him to vote at all ; as, for instance, an English brother Mason, who had made his home and actual residence in this country, and yet who, for reasons satisfactory to himself, has never become a citizen of the United States or declared his intention to become one, and who in reality had no such intention. Then again a brother, being such a citizen, might move into a subordinate Chapter’s jurisdiction whose Grand Chapter had provided for shorter residence authorizing one to petition for the degrees than that prescribed by the State to entitle him to the right to vote, and where consequently he would have the Masonic right to petition before he could have the lawful right to vote. And other combinations could possibly be thought of.”

We say, most heartily, Amen ! to this.

“Not war alone claims sacrifice and death. Disease, with slow and stealthy tread, draws near the seat of life, invests and besieges its ramparts, and compels their capitulation to its inevitable and annihilating forces. The world is justly filled with praises of those who nobly fall in the fore-front of deadly combat ; but there is another degree of courage, which in its quiet and resigned contemplation not merely of danger but of the very certainty of death, counts its slow but sure approaches, day by day, and ever realizes that it is very near at hand ; and it is this kind of courage—that escapes the attention of the masses, and is only contemplated by the few who surround its hero—which, if less thrilling and exultant, is no less lofty and noble than that which bids for glory in the clash of arms and chances death in the din of battle.”

Under Maine we would like to quote entire the discussion re charters, but space forbids.

Pennsylvania's Report of Proceedings passed under Comp. Long's critical and observant eye. He notes our illustration—Oriental Hall—and the “dignified” photo-lithograph of M. E. William C. Hamilton.

He quotes the report of our Committee on Foreign Correspondence re recognition of the Grand Chapter of New Zealand and kindly alludes to the regular report of this committee as the work of “the illustrious five.”

He kindly terms our conclusion pleasing and quotes from it liberally.

Under Tennessee we find the following strong and admirable passage :

“The Comp. (Henry H. Ingersoll) having heretofore—and often —attacked the Scottish Rite as an anti-American institution, the present writer remarked last year that it is, in its present organization, preeminently an American Rite, having been organized at Charleston, South Carolina, in 1801, and that its claims to American occupation are perhaps comparatively greater than even those of the Royal Arch, all of which could be maintained by historical argument, were space available.

“It is true that twenty-five of its component degrees were practiced in Europe in 1758, in what became known as the Rite of Perfection ; but it is equally true that the Degree of Royal Arch Mason, the culmination, as some claim, of Ancient Craft Masonry as now practiced in America, had its origin in England in 1740—to say nothing about its having been invented by the Chevalier Ramsay at a much earlier period, Oliver, in his ‘Discrepancies of Freemasonry,’ fixing the date ‘about the year 1745!’ If the Webb additions to Capitular Masonry constitute, with it, an American Rite, why do not the addition of eight degrees at Charleston to the Rite of Perfection, making up the present organization of the Scottish Rite, constitute it also an American Rite? Can one of these more consistently be called anti-American than the other? His position that a Mason cannot belong to both

without seeking to make one subservient to the other is disproved by the life-time interest taken by the greatest Masons of the world in both these magnificent departments of Masonry. His motives—so long misunderstood, for the reason that he was supposed to know nothing about the Scottish Rite—are now made clear through his exposure as a Cerneauite by Comp. Williams in his Ohio Report on Correspondence, copied in the present review of that Grand Jurisdiction. The statement first above mentioned has furnished Comp. Ingersoll a text for many fallacies and much buncombe, which it would be scarcely worth while to answer even if the space were at hand."

We quote this much of Comp. Long's conclusion :

"Though 'the days of our age are three score years and ten,' and though a given individual, while nearing the goal, may be of a comparatively safe distance from the terminal point, it does not at all follow that he shall hold out to end the race at the scriptural limit ; much less by impetus, or extraordinary vigor, to rush past 'the wire' a few paces further, only to demonstrate that even this is 'but labor and sorrow.' In no despondent mood, but in the wholly philosophical thought of this sentiment, the writer concludes his present Report, with no assurance but good health that he will ever indite another,"

to enable us to devoutly wish that he may be spared to be with us yet for many days and those not of "labor and sorrow."

Thomas R. Marshall, M. E. Grand High Priest ; R. E. William H. Smythe, Grand Secretary.

KANSAS.

The Grand Chapter of Kansas convened in the city of Leavenworth, in Masonic Hall, on Monday, February 13, 1899, at three o'clock, P. M.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Aaron H. Connett, delivered the annual address. He makes touching allusion to

departed Companions and recommends that half-tone portraits of two distinguished Companions, Henry Clay Cook and John Moses Price, be placed in the Annual Proceedings and they are so placed.

He decides that

"It is not proper for a Chapter to accept anything in payment for degrees except money."

and that

"A Chapter has no authority to confer the Past Master's Degree upon the Master-elect of a Symbolic Lodge, or upon any one who has not previously received the Mark Master's Degree."

He made three official visits and regretted that he was unable to make more.

He recommends a law "making membership in a Chapter dependent upon membership in a Symbolic Lodge."

In our Jurisdiction this is the law. This is not the "law universal," in consequence of which the pros and cons on "dependent membership," like the old item of "cubes as ballots" may be seen in almost every Report on Foreign Correspondence.

The Grand Secretary makes a readable report and tells his Companions that "the Card Index will be completed by the time when the summer sun gives the longest light."

The Committee on Obituaries makes a very full, fraternal and sympathetic report, closing with Tennyson's beautiful lines beginning

"Sunset and evening star
And one clear call for me !"

The Committee on Jurisprudence concurred in the M. E. Grand High Priest's recommendation as to dependent membership and frames a regulation to cover the case.

The M. E. Grand Secretary, Comp. Jacob DeWitt, for the Committee presents the Report on Foreign Correspondence. This is his fifth and it is in no wise inferior to those going before.

Pennsylvania for 1897 comes under the critical eye of this reviewer. He speaks of the "certificate issued by Philadelphia Union Mark Lodge, No. 1, to Jacob Kline, and dated 9th day of September, A. I. 5812" as of historic value.

Two decisions are quoted and he naively asks:

"Is there no penalty that can be imposed upon the Chapter in such cases?"

There is no penalty but death. The M. E. Grand High Priest has power to suspend or sequester the Warrant of a Chapter for certain defined causes among which are "violation of the Landmarks, or for such act or acts of insubordination as tend to destroy the peace and harmony of the Craft." This is, of course, but suspended animation. But the Grand Chapter upon report, after warning, summons and charge may forfeit any Warrant.

There is, it is true, the dreadful penalty of the knowledge of having done wrong. And this deters.

He is pleased with the writer's treatment of Kansas and quotes us as well as Comp. Henderson. He also quotes Comp. Africa on the law governing resignations.

He disclaims the position assigned by Comp. Africa to the Order of High Priesthood in Kansas as being "independent of and *above* the Grand Chapter" saying

"No, not above.—DeW."

Comp. Lyte is also quoted.

Comp. Alex. A. Sherp, Grand High Priest; Comp. Jacob DeWitt, Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA.

The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Louisiana convened, in Masonic Hall, New Orleans, La., at 10 o'clock A. M., on Tuesday, February 14, 1899.

It was the Fifty-Second Annual Grand Communication.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. George W. Bolton, delivered the usual address.

Recognizing the factor of personal responsibility, he says:

"If we have honestly endeavored to discharge the duties and obligations incumbent on us in our daily lives, and have not shrunk from responsibility when required or demanded by the vows we have voluntarily assumed, then we may console ourselves with the fact that our work will stand the test of the 'Overseen's Square' and in due time we shall be rewarded."

He decided that

"An officer of a Chapter could not demit, but if circumstances were such as to demand that he should sever his connection with the Chapter he could tender his resignation, with the reasons therefor, and if they were deemed sufficient, I would accept the same and authorize the Chapter to elect and install another Companion, then his application for a demit could be acted on."

Here is a confusion of terms. Demit, or as incorrectly used, dimit means simply to resign. It is Pennsylvania law that "an officer of a Chapter cannot resign his office or membership; he having obligated himself to serve for the Masonic year."

If it was in this sense that the word is used then the officer could not resign his office but could resign his membership which would be tantamount and of course absurd.

The word demit or dimit has colloquial use in Pennsylvania, but it is not recognized Masonically. A member withdraws from membership and is furnished a certificate of his resignation.

By the following action fraternal intercourse was again established between the Supreme Grand Chapter and Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales:

"Resolved, That the edict of non-intercourse with the Supreme Grand Chapter and the Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales be, and the same is hereby rescinded, annulled and rendered void *ab initio*."

This was referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence who duly considered the subject and submitted the following resolution which, together with the report of the Committee, was adopted:

"Resolved, That the edict of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, adopted in 1886, be and is hereby rescinded and that the Grand High Priest be requested to take such steps as may be necessary to re-establish the fraternal intercourse heretofore existing between the respective bodies."

A compact report of eighteen pages of Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of M. E. Comp. Herman Cope Duncan. In it forty jurisdictions are noted. How he contrives to do

this may be gathered from his opening remarks. He says: "We have carefully examined (the above,) and have to submit the following report on matters therein contained that seem to us to carry interest to the Royal Craft of our own jurisdiction. This report is not a magazine to hold critiques of the publications of the proceedings of other Grand Bodies, but is a report made for the benefit, the enlightenment, and, perchance, the edification of our own membership. The omission of remarks upon the proceedings of a Grand Body are not to be taken in any way a discourtesy, but solely as implying that we have failed to find in it anything that will serve a useful purpose in republication in Louisiana."

Liberal quotations are made and under Illinois he gives his personal views on the subject of "Masonic obligation" arguing as we take it that the marriage of the widow, daughter or sister of a deceased Mason voids any claim she may have had upon the Fraternity. Now, in point of fact, there is and can be no claim, as of a right, to any aid from the Fraternity as a fraternity. To help, aid and assist is a purely personal obligation. We promise that we will do each for himself, not what our Lodge, Chapter or Grand Chapter will do.

That acts of charity are done by these bodies is very true, but they are voluntary acts. They are never done by reason of any compact expressed or implied. Freemasonry is very catholic in its charities, voting relief to suffering humanity irrespective of membership. The cry of the victims of fire, fever or flood, as well as the wail of the widow or the fatherless, or the plea of the Brother or Companion in distress is heard and responded to freely, voluntarily, not by compulsion.

Comp. Duncan is right when he says:

"And we say further, that a chapter has a perfect right to relieve the distress of a woman, who has never been married to a Mason, or been in any way connected with a Mason."

We would like to quote Comp. Duncan under Maine, re the origin and powers of Grand Chapters and General Grand Chapters, but space forbids.

Comp. George W. Bolton, M. E. High Priest; Comp. Richard Lambert, P. G. H. P., M. E. Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

The pamphlet of printed proceedings of the Seventy-Fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, held at Portland, May 2d and 3d, A. D. 1899, A. I. 2429, came to hand December 29th, two days after the close of our Masonic year. By the courtesy of the M. E. Grand High Priest, we are permitted to print the hasty review that could be made in the short time allowed us.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Albro E. Chase, began his address with this paragraph :

“The world moves on and we move on with it, and as each in his own particular place rounds out the year with the consciousness of duty done, he comes not to its close unwillingly, but, empowered by his success in the struggles co-existent with human life, he feels the more competent to await the trials of the coming year. By teachings of Capitular Masonry, too, are we strengthened for our labors, and the active companion, earnest in our work, must find that ‘his hands are held up’ by thoughts of the result which must follow from observing and preserving everything of excellence that is brought to his view as he journeys his years of probation; and when we have fulfilled that probation, wrought our full time in the quarries, by following the teachings of our Rite will we be received within the temple wherein dwells the great I AM, whom we worship and adore, and whose mercies are continuous and everlasting.”

A Chapter submitted an amendment to its By-laws, thus :

“‘Provided, however, that when five candidates from the same Lodge shall at one and the same time present their applications they may have the degrees conferred upon them for the sum of one hundred dollars.’ The

Grand High Priest said, 'The fees for the degrees in this Chapter are thirty dollars. I did not approve this By-law believing that it was class legislation.' "

A Scribe elect, at the installation of officers of his Chapter, declined to be installed by the installing officer, and stated that he was ready and willing to be installed by any other officer competent to perform that duty. The facts being submitted to the Grand High Priest, he declared the office vacant by the act of the Scribe elect, and directed that a Dispensation should be granted to the Chapter to fill the vacancy by an election. The Committee on Jurisprudence to which this decision was referred, sustained the Grand High Priest and the Report of the Committee was adopted by the Grand Chapter.

By reports of the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe and three District Deputy Grand High Priests, it appears that all or nearly all of the Chapters were visited. The Charity Fund amounts to \$4,801.00. Communications from the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand and the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Victoria, asking recognition and an exchange of representatives, were referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. That Committee reported that the General Grand Chapter decided that the Grand Chapter of Victoria was lawfully organized, and it therefore recommended that Masonic correspondence be opened with it and an exchange of representatives arranged. As to the Grand Chapter of New Zealand the Committee desired further time.

We noted last year a proposition to consolidate two Chapters. That work was accomplished, and it is proposed to adopt the same method for the benefit of another struggling Chapter.

The number of Chapters working is 56, with a total membership, April 1, 1899, of 6,286, the net increase for the year

being 94. The gross receipts of the Grand Chapter were \$2,002.11, and the expenditures were \$1,893.87.

Comp. Josiah H. Drummond presented the Report on Correspondence. He has been in the reportorial guild continuously since 1865 (inclusive) excepting the year 1873, and, according to our computation, the message now before us is his thirty-fourth.

He quotes from M. E. Grand High Priest Jacob's Inaugural Address :

"I am a firm believer in the settled policy of this Grand Chapter to steadfastly adhere to our ancient landmarks, and to firmly resist the introduction of innovations, which, however they may please the passing fancy of their inventors and their inventors' friends, tend only to mar the beauty and symmetry of our Institutions and to shake the confidence of our members in our Fraternity as an 'ancient' as well as an 'Honorable Fraternity.' "

And comments thereon :

"There is great need of the enforcement of these views, not in that jurisdiction, but in the younger jurisdictions, in which young but zealous masons are endeavoring to reconstruct the Institution according to their views of what it ought to be, using some of the so-called Masonic periodicals to disseminate their views : the *really* Masonic periodicals are not open to them."

And :

"He speaks also very strongly against too great haste in conferring the degrees, calling the attention to the law, that the candidate ought to become proficient in one degree, before he receives another, and he calls the attention of High Priests to this point."

He quotes approvingly from the introduction to the Report on Correspondence and the review written by our Chairman, Comp. Henderson, and, in mentioning Comp. Bates' history of our Masonic Temple debt, he added :

"Our Pennsylvania companions have a right to be proud of their temple, and especially the manner in which the craft have carried it through to a success."

He quotes freely, and generally with approval, from our review of Maine (1898). He wrote:

"We have no doubt and have never expressed any, that it is the strict law in Pennsylvania that no cipher can be used without subjecting the offender to masonic discipline ; but at the same time, we have reason which justifies our belief that such things are surreptitiously used in that jurisdiction."

Our *unwritten* law prescribes severe penalties for its violation. A part of the written law is:

"The use of a manuscript in conferring a degree is unlawful, and the Brother guilty of such use will be expelled.

No part of the work of Freemasonry is permitted to be written, printed, or otherwise indicated, and no Masonic officer or Brother can use any book or writing which contains the work of Freemasonry without subjecting himself to a formal charge of Un-Masonic conduct."

We are aware of the fact that some enterprising publishers have printed in cypher, manuals which *purport* to be the Masonic work of Pennsylvania, but we never saw one that was correct, and we are quite sure that neither the R. W. Grand Master, his deputies nor any member of the Fraternity, had knowledge that any cypher was used in conferring degrees within the Jurisdiction. Any evidence of the infraction of the law quoted above, communicated to the R. W. Grand Master, will be thankfully received and immediately acted upon by him.

Among the many pretended expositions of Freemasonry, including Cypher Rituals, that have been issued from the press in this country during the present century, the authorship of *not one* has been assumed by, or credited to a Pennsylvania Mason. During the political persecution of Masons in Pennsylvania, when Thaddeus Stevens assumed the role of Persecutor-General, some Masons "renounced," but *not one*, as far as our knowledge extends, ever revealed the workings of the tyled Lodge.

The *dishonor* of the pretended revelations belongs to Jurisdictions outside of Pennsylvania. It is needless to add, that however skilled an "imposter" might be in Morgan, Allyn, Duncan, Richardson, and other pretended "Exposures," he could not pass an examination and be admitted as a visitor in a Lodge of Master Masons in Pennsylvania. "Book-Masons" are readily detected in this Jurisdiction, and are summarily discharged.

Last year, under Maine, we wrote :

It has always be held in Pennsylvania that certain parts of the ceremony of constituting a Lodge or Chapter and installing the officer are *esoteric*, hence the work is performed only within a tyled Lodge or Chapter.

Comp. Drummond quotes this sentence, and asked :

But isn't it also the fact that none of the members of the Lodge or Chapter can be present at the performance of the *esoteric* work except those who have passed the chair? That is true in Maine and everywhere else, so far as we know.

In constituting a Lodge in Pennsylvania, which includes the ceremonies of consecration and installation, the Brethren assemble in the untyled Lodge room. The Officers of the Grand Lodge meet at some convenient place, usually in a room in the same building, and, entering the Lodge room in procession, assume their proper stations and places. A Grand Lodge is then opened, and the consecration ceremonies follow. These ended, the installation of the Worshipful Master succeeds, and after certain preliminaries, among which is the reading of the Ancient Charges, which the Master must promise to support, are completed, all the Brethren present not Past Masters, withdraw. Then the Masteris passed to the Chair. When this ceremony has been gone through with, the Brethren who had withdrawn return, with such other Master Masons as may have, meantime, entered the waiting-room. Other ceremonies incident to the installation of the Master

are then performed, and the Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer and Secretary, are separately installed, invested and charged by the Grand Master. A formal proclamation that ———— Lodge, No. ———, has been duly constituted is then made by the Grand Marshal, and the closing ceremonies follow.

It will be observed that *all* of the ceremonies are performed within a tyled Lodge; that any Master Mason can be present during the entire session, excepting only the short time occupied in passing the Master to the Chair, which can be performed in the presence of Past Masters only. The procedure in constituting a chapter is practically the same.

This formula of *installation* is repeated in every Lodge in the Jurisdiction after each annual election of officers. Officers below the station of Secretary are appointed by the Worshipful Master, and are not installed.

We are pleased to record the fact that Comp. Drummond seems to be satisfied that, on the subject of Marks, Pennsylvania is content to exercise control over its own members only, and does not claim "jurisdiction throughout the world."

On the subject of the age of the present Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Comp. Drummond wrote in 1895 (page 229):

But now Pennsylvania historians and orators (of whom Comp. Africa was one, unless our memory is at fault) claim that their Grand Lodge dates from 1731.

Here, by innuendo, the Masonic reader is led to believe that the writer hereof, claimed that the present Grand Lodge dates from 1731. The same year we challenged Comp. Drummond to show where or when we made any such claim or to admit that his memory is at fault. No retraction of the charge has been made. Last year he dropped the name of the writer

from his charge and hoped "that hereafter Pennsylvania orators and writers will cease misleading and even deceiving the public by the statement that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is the oldest Grand Lodge on the American continent." We quoted his expression and replied that "he will be expected by the Masonic world to give evidence of his hint."

This year, 1899, he responds :

"We were personally present and heard a Pennsylvania orator make the claim in specific terms that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is the oldest Grand Lodge in the United States. We have read numerous articles in which the same claim was made.

The admission, in effect, is that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is not the oldest Grand Lodge in the United States ; and the statements to which we have alluded, have deceived many into believing that it is the oldest Grand Lodge."

Now will Comp. Drummond be candid, and say if the writer hereof did, or did not, claim that the present Grand Lodge dates from 1731, or 1732, if he prefers that date?

The writer hereof nowhere admitted that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is not the oldest in the United States. The question as to which Grand Lodge can show the longest continued existence to the present day does not enter into this discussion.

Authentic history is a truthful record of events. Vague hints and surmises have no place therein. If we are in error in any of our statements, a sense of Masonic duty will require us to retract or correct them.

Last year we summarized Comp. Drummond's evidence in Pennsylvania in favor of public installations. He has added nothing new but says of us :

"He adds something in relation to public installations, of which we only need say that of course he is entitled to his own opinion as to the effect of Grand Master CHANDLER'S participating in one, and he must allow

all the rest of us our opinion as to the effect of it, and he will find the verdict decidedly against him. We have further examined the matter and consider it settled. We have shown in our report to the Grand Lodge that all the Ahiman Rezon of Pennsylvania, down to the comparatively late ones, recognized the lawfulness and propriety of masons appearing in public in their masonic capacity, precisely as is now done in all other jurisdictions except Pennsylvania, and, moreover, the lawfulness of public installations was recognized in the older Ahiman Rezon. This ought to be sufficient, and will everywhere, except possibly in Pennsylvania, be deemed sufficient, to stop our Pennsylvania Companions from denouncing such service as unmasonic."

We are surprised that Comp. Drummond persistently ignores the plain truth in saying that "the lawfulness of public installations was recognized in the older Ahiman Rezon." Why does he persist in "deceiving the public?"

The oldest Ahiman Rezon that contains a formula of "The Manner of constituting a Lodge, including the ceremony of consecration and installation," is that of 1825. It is plainly stated therein on page 200, that:

"A Grand Lodge will then be opened by the Grand Officers in Ancient Form." The ceremonies of constituting, consecrating and installation follow. After all these are completed we read on page 220,

"The ceremony of closing will now succeed."

The *practice* in Pennsylvania conforms with the *law*, and no installation of the officers of the Grand Lodge or of a subordinate lodge could be held in public either before or after the adoption of the Ahiman Rezon of 1825.

Which horn of the dilemma will Comp. Drummond take? Will he show *where* the older Ahiman Rezon recognized the lawfulness of public installations? Or will he be candid enough to admit that he was wrong in his statements?

As to "deceiving the public," concerning the age of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania :

The Ahiman Rezon of 1781, makes no reference to the date of the Warrant. That of 1825, on page 68, gives the date of the *second* (or duplicate) Warrant as of June 20, 1764. The volume published by the Committee on Library of the Grand Lodge in 1877, gives on pages XXXVII and XXXVIII a copy of a *triplicate* of June 20, 1764, of the Warrant dated July 15, 1761. As the second of these publications was transmitted to all the Grand Lodges in the United States, and to all the subordinate lodges in Pennsylvania, three-quarters of a century ago, and the third and later, was freely distributed among sister Grand and Subordinate Lodges, the Masonic public that chose to read, was informed as to the date of the organization of the present Grand Lodge.

Who then was *deceived* as to the age of the present Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania? Was Comp. Drummond? If he was not, who were?

In penning some of the preceding paragraphs, facts connected with the formation of our premier Lodge were brought to mind, and we are inclined now to refer to them. Although they are not germane to the matters under consideration, they may interest Comp. Drummond, as we know they will our Pennsylvania Companions.

In 1757, a number of Brethren of the city of Philadelphia applied for, and were granted, a Warrant No. 4 by the "Modern" Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, of which William Allen was then Grand Master. Bro. George Brooks was appointed by the Warrant as Master. On St. John's Day, June 24, 1757, the Lodge was constituted, and soon began to admit members and initiate candidates. A few months later, the Lodge numbered more than twenty members, several of whom were

"Royal Arch Masons." Most of these Brethren were immigrants from the British Islands and were "Ancient" Masons, although they were ignorant of the fact that there were two Grand Lodges in England. Members of the Lodges No. 1 and 2, (Modern) possibly learning that Bro. Brooks was an "Ancient" Mason, preferred frivolous charges against him for some reason, and summoned him before a Committee of the two Lodges. Proving the charges groundless, they were given up. He and other members of No. 4 were then charged with being "Ancient Masons." To this charge they plead guilty, and the Grand Lodge "summoned them before them and importuned them in their way, which they refused to comply with, and are determined inviolably to adhere to the Ancient principles."

The Lodge however continued at work. On the third day of January, 1758, a petition to the Grand Lodge of Ancients in London was drawn up, requesting a Warrant. A week later, January 10, 1758, the petition was signed by the Master, Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary, together with eight other members then present, and forwarded to London. In response to the prayer of the petitioners, a Warrant No. 69, was granted June 7, 1758. Meantime, all the business and work of the Lodge was continued. On the receipt of the new Warrant, it "was read with a solemnity suitable to the occasion," and business and work was continued as usual until 1764, when the present (Ancient) Grand Lodge was constituted, under the Warrant granted in 1761. Under the Grand Lodge, "Modern" Lodge No. 4, warranted in 1758 as Lodge No. 69, "Ancients" of England, became No. 2. It has its minutes complete from June 24, 1757. It held on to its Warrant No. 69 of 1758, until December 20, 1779, when in Grand Lodge: "The Worshipful Master of No. 2 produced his Warrant, granted June 7, 1758, No. 69 of Ancient York Masons, in England, but held as No.

2 in Pennsylvania, and desired the same might be renewed under the Authority of this Grand Lodge, preserving the precedence of the said No. 2 in Pennsylvania, and reciting the Date and preamble of the same, which was agreed to."

On the tenth of February, 1780, in Grand Lodge, "The new Warrant of the ancient Lodge No. 2, being fairly and beautifully engrossed, agreeably to the orders of a former Grand Lodge, was produced and signed in the words following:" (Then follows a copy of the Warrant. See "Reprint of the Minutes," Vol. I, pages 13 and 22.)

In the Ahiman Rezon of 1825, page 79, it is stated that:

"The first royal arch chapter of America, of which we possess a particular account, is that held in Pennsylvania, anterior to the year 1758. This chapter, working under the warrant No. 3, was recognized by, and had communion with a military chapter, working under a warrant 351, granted by the grand lodge of England."

Lodge No. 3 surrendered its original Warrant and received a new one on October 20, 1767. All Grand Lodge records having been destroyed during the Revolutionary War, neither the number nor date of the original Warrant of the present Lodge No. 3, can now be ascertained. The Lodge is yet a flourishing organization and has its minutes complete from 1767 down to the current year. The Warrant for No. 4 was re-issued December 28, 1772. The original, like that for No. 3, was destroyed. As Warrant No. 5 was granted June 24, 1765, it is clear that the original Warrant for the Lodge that became No. 3 was of an earlier date.

Comp. Drummond has endeavored to persuade himself and the Masonic world, that in the "olden time," the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, opened as such, appeared in public. In 1896, mentioning by name the writer thereof, he said, (page 412):

“On the same grounds upon which he declares public installations unlawful, the *present* Pennsylvania doctrine is that it is unlawful for a Lodge *opened as such*, to bury, or a Grand Lodge, *opened as such*, to lay a corner stone or appear in public for the performance of any masonic ceremony. But from the earliest times and everywhere, *save now in Pennsylvania*, it is and has been, the usage for the Grand Lodge, *opened as such*, to appear in public and lay corner stones and perform other masonic ceremonies.” (All the italics in this paragraph are ours, J. S. A).

In 1896, he wrote (page 104) as to Pennsylvania :

“We will merely say, that we have ascertained that there *has been* a change in the *law*, and, therefore, beyond all question in the *practice* in relation to masonic funerals, the laying of corner stones, and the dedication of halls, so much is certain.”

Our esteemed Companion has fallen into error. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, *opened as such*, never appeared in public on any of the occasions mentioned by him. The earliest authentic account of the Brethren of the several Lodges of this Jurisdiction appearing in public procession, is found in the Ahiman Rezon of 1781, p. 145-164, when they proceeded to Christ Church, Philadelphia, on the celebration of St. John's Day, Monday, December 28, 1778, and listened to a sermon delivered by Rev. William Smith, D. D., for the “benefit of the poor.” On this occasion when £400 were collected for that purpose, Brother George Washington, appeared in the procession, supported by the Grand Master and his Deputy. There is no evidence in this “account” of the opening of a Grand or any subordinate lodge.

From the minutes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, we made the following notes of some occasions when the Brethren appeared in public.

ATTENDING CHURCH.

In Grand Lodge, December 25, 1783, “the propriety of the Brethren of the several Lodges walking in procession on Saturday next, being St. John's Day, to St. Paul's Church to hear

Divine service, was taken into consideration, when the same was unanimously agreed to," and a committee was appointed "to wait on Rev. Dr. Magaw, and request him to prepare a Charity Sermon for that day." On St. John's Day, "the several Lodges, being properly assembled walked in Masonic Procession from the Lodge in Lodge Alley to St. Paul's Church."

December 20, 1784, a similar resolution was adopted, to attend "divine service at Christ's Church," on St. John's Day, and one on December 2, 1786, to "attend Divine service at the University," on St. John's Day. While these processions were regulated by Committees previously appointed by the Grand Lodge, no Grand Lodge was opened on any of the occasions.

FUNERAL SERVICES.

December 26, 1799, Extra Grand Communication, "held by Virtue of a special Summons from the R. W. Grand Master, in consequence of the invitation of the Committee of Arrangement of Congress to attend the delivery of a Funeral Oration in honour of the late Lieutenant-General George Washington, as directed by Order of Congress." The Grand Lodge decided to immediately "join in the Honours about to be shown to the Memory of our Illustrious deceased Brother." *The Grand Lodge then closed.* "The Brethren then formed in due Order in the Grand Lodge Room, and moving from thence joined in the general procession, which proceeded from Congress Hall (Independence Hall) to Zion Church," where a funeral service was pronounced by Rt. Rev. Bishop White, and an oration was delivered by General Henry Lee, "which being ended the Masonic Procession returned to the Grand Lodge Room."

William Ball, R. W. Past Grand Master and First Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, died May 30, 1810, and his remains were interred "in Masonic Form by the Grand and Subordinate Lodges in the city." In the minutes

of June 4, 1810, the order of procession is recorded. *No Grand Lodge was opened.*

Jonathan Bayard Smith, R. W. Past Grand Master, who served several years as Grand Master, between the years 1789 and 1802, died June 16, 1812. On the eighteenth his remains were interred "in Masonic Form, by the Grand Lodge and the Subordinate Lodges in the City." In the minutes of June 24, 1812, the order of the funeral procession is given. *No Grand Lodge was opened.* The number of Brethren in attendance on this occasion is stated to be about 600.

DEDICATION OF HALLS.

Prior to 1802, the Grand Lodge occupied several rented halls. In the early part of the year mentioned, it purchased a lot on Filbert Street, now known as No. 814, with a three-story brick dwelling thereon, which building was altered to meet the needs of the Grand Lodge, and was officially designated "The Pennsylvania Free Mason's Hall." St. John's Day, December 27th of that year, was appointed the time for dedicating the Hall. On that day the Brethren assembled at a church on Lombard Street and proceeded in the order as recorded, to the Hall, when "The Grand Master ordered the Lodge to be Tyled," and "Grand Lodge opened in Ample Form." The ceremony of dedication was then performed and was followed by the installation of officers.

Late 1807, the Grand Lodge purchased the lot Nos. 713-721 Chestnut Street, and sometime thereafter commenced the erection of a Hall thereon. On St. John the Baptist's Day, June 24, 1811, by elaborate ceremonies, the new Hall was dedicated. A procession was formed at the Old College Hall on Fourth Street near Arch, and proceeded over several streets to St. John's Church on Race street, where an oration, accompanied with prayers, thanksgiving and solemn music, was delivered. After a benediction was pronounced, a pro-

cession of the Brethren was formed and proceeded to the new Hall, and Grand Lodge was tyled and opened in Ancient Form. After all the ceremonies of consecration had been concluded, the "Grand Lodge closed in Harmony."

On the ninth of March, 1819, the Chestnut Street Hall was destroyed by fire, and on the sixteenth of the same month, the Grand Lodge re-occupied the "Old Masonic Hall, Filbert Street." The destroyed Hall was rebuilt, and on November 1, 1820, it was dedicated with great ceremony. Nearly all the Subordinate Lodges were represented, and the occasion was honored by the presence of the Officers of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey and Brethren from other states. The programme included the assembling of the Craft at Washington Hall on Third Street, moving over several streets to Zion Church, where there were music, prayer, oration, and benediction. These ceremonies concluded, the procession continued to the New Hall. After the Brethren had entered, "Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form," and the usual formula of dedication was rendered, and "The Grand Lodge closed in Harmony."

LAYING CORNER STONES.

The earliest record of this ceremony found in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, is a full account of laying the corner stone of the bridge over the Schuylkill River at Market Street, Philadelphia, April 28, 1812. The R. W. Grand Master, James Milnor, being a member of Congress, and then in Washington, the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, waiving his right, requested Bro. Jonathan Bayard Smith, R. W. Past Grand Master to perform the duty. Assisted by the Officers of the Grand Lodge and several Brethren, Bro. Smith laid the stone with appropriate ceremonies. *No Grand Lodge was opened.* A full report of the procession was made to the Quarterly Grand Communication held June 1, 1812.

PROCESSIONS.

The XXV. section of the "Rules and Regulations for the government of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania," revised and adopted December 29, 1789, declares that:

"There shall be no procession but with the consent of two-thirds of the members present at the communication next preceding the feast of St. John, when the same is to take place. And no funeral procession shall be had without an application to the Grand Master," etc.

Owing to the multiplication of Lodges throughout the Jurisdiction, this rule was from necessity modified from time to time as to funerals of members, so that the calling of a Lodge for such purposes rests with the Worshipful Master. But as to processions on other occasions, they cannot be had without Dispensation of the Grand Master first had and obtained, on a statement made by the Master, of the purpose of the ceremony in public. These occasions are limited to attending divine service on St. John the Baptist's Day, St. John the Evangelist's Day, the day appointed by the President of the United States as a day of humiliation and prayer, and the day appointed as a day of Thanksgiving; and to the laying of a corner-stone, and the opening and consecrating of a new Lodge room.

We have clearly shown by quotations from the records of the Grand Lodge in this and in preceding reviews, that public installations of the officers of the Grand and Subordinate Lodges were never permitted nor practiced in Pennsylvania. They are prohibited. There remains then no hook upon which Comp. Drummond can hang his allegation, except the Chandler incident. See how adroitly he handles it:

"He (Comp. A.) adds something in relation to public installations, of which we only need say that of course he is entitled to his own opinion as to the effect of Grand Master CHANDLER'S participating in one, and he must allow all the rest of us our opinion as to the effect of it, and he will find the verdict decidedly against him."

Grand Master Chandler! He was no more a Grand Master when the incident referred to occurred than Comp. Drummond is now Grand High Priest of Maine. Brother Chandler, then Past Grand Master, attended, it is stated, the Grand Lodge at Washington, D. C., December 27, 1849, and delivered an address. It is claimed that on this occasion there was a public installation of officers. For many years Comp. Drummond has heralded this circumstance as evidence that public installations were lawful in Pennsylvania! Brother Chandler's term as Grand Master ended seven years before this meeting. The records of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania from 1779 down to date, show that all installations of officers were within the tyled Grand Lodge, and never in the presence of the public.

We have shown by the preceding extracts from the minutes of the Grand Lodge that in the cases of processions Attending Church, Funeral Services, Dedication of Halls and Laying Corner Stones, no Grand Lodge was opened, excepting in each case of Dedication of Halls, when after the procession reached the Hall, the Lodge was tyled and a Grand Lodge opened in Ample Form. These precedents range in age from over eighty to over one hundred and twenty years; they were observed when Joseph R. Chandler was R. W. Grand Master and are to-day. Where Comp. Drummond can find evidence to sustain his claim that Pennsylvania Masons of the present day have departed from the law and practice of their fathers of "Auld Lang Syne," in the ceremonies mentioned, we fail to discern.

The volume before us contains a portrait of the M. E. Comp. Albro E. Chase.

The next Annual Convocation will be held at the Masonic Hall, Portland, May 1, 1900.

Comp. Winfield S. Hinckley, Lisbon, M. E. Grand High Priest; Comp. Stephen Berry, Portland, R. E. Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND.

The Annual Convocation, One Hundred and First Year, was held in the Masonic Temple, Baltimore, November 8, A. D. 1898, A. I. 2428.

Our venerated Comp. Edward T. Schultz was re-appointed Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, whereupon, he

Returned his grateful acknowledgments for the re-appointment for the twenty-fourth year; but was constrained to decline because of his loss of vision, and urged the appointment of some other Companion in his stead.

Pleasantly disregarding the suggestion of Comp. Schultz, and with assurance of its continued fraternal consideration, the Grand Chapter, however, confirmed the appointment unanimously, by a rising vote.

We gladly give place to the following extract from the well-framed address of M. E. High Grand Priest, Comp. George Cook :

It is with sincere pleasure that I extend to you a Fraternal welcome to this the one hundred and first anniversary of the formation of this Grand Chapter.

The first century is closed with honor to the Craft and the second is begun under favorable auspices so far as the prosperity of our noble Order is concerned; peace, harmony and good will prevail in our midst; prosperity has been awarded us as the reward of devotion to duty; our predecessors in the Order in this State labored a century with untiring zeal and devotion to the principles of the Order, and to them is due all praise for our glorious heritage. It is for us of the present day to look forward, ever being sensible of the great responsibilities with which we are entrusted; to preserve intact this grand structure, so that it will not crumble, decay nor degenerate, while in our keeping, that we may likewise deserve honorable mention for preserving and handing to our successors, unimpaired, a work of which we need not to be ashamed.

Comp. William T. Price, R. E. Grand King, died July 22d, and Comp. Joseph Fry Hindes, August 16th. The latter was a Past Grand High Priest, and was serving as R. E. Grand Chaplain.

The Grand High Priest constituted a new Chapter, Cecil No. 34, at Elkton. This extract from his annual address is worthy of being read in every Chapter on the continent:

"I desire to call your attention to the perfunctory manner in which the examinations for advancement of candidates are often conducted. The Councils of Chapters, through zeal to make R. A. Masons, permit candidates to advance who are entirely unqualified, and who could never pass an examination which would admit them to a Chapter outside of their own. To me it appears that an injustice is being done to such candidates, for under present conditions it is often farcical to see a candidate stumbling through a lot of work which he does not know, and I contend that we have no right to place a candidate in such an embarrassing position and compel him to waste his time in accomplishing nothing. I would recommend that Standing Resolution of November 10, 1857, amended November 8, 1875, be so amended as to conform to the manner of the examination of our Symbolic Lodges, or else abolish the whole, as is done in some other jurisdictions."

The Grand Lecturer reported that all the Chapters of the Jurisdiction had been visited, and at each visitation from one to three days were occupied in the conferring or exemplification of degrees, and in giving necessary instruction in the work; also, that the Craft generally was in excellent condition.

The financial statements show:

1897, Nov. 9.	Balance in Bank	\$ 142 87
1898, " 7.	Receipts of the year	2,311 95
		<hr/>
		\$2,454 82

1898, Nov. 7.	Expenses of the Year	\$2,299 07
“ “ “	Balance in Bank	155 75
		<hr/>
		\$2,454 82

The Committee of Correspondence, to which was referred the application of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand for fraternal recognition, declined a favorable recommendation. The Chapters that united to form this Grand Chapter hold Warrants from the Grand Chapters of England, Scotland and Ireland, and the Committee had no information of recognition by any of the Mother Grand Chapters from whose progeny the new Grand Body was formed.

In December, 1898, the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania declined the request because the new Grand Chapter did not have the allegiance of all the Chapters of New Zealand, and on account of lack of more definite information as to its relations with the parent Grand Chapters and with the non-assenting Chapters in that country.

It is well to go slow in such matters, and not take a step that might have to be recalled.

The number of members of the eighteen Chapters, November 8th, was 1880, an increase of nineteen over the preceding year.

Comp. Schultz's affliction prevented him from following his usual plan of commenting upon the proceedings of each Grand Chapter, and his message is devoted to the presentation of several topics pertaining to the Fraternity in general. We extract a part of the article on "The Correspondent's Duty."

"The duty of a reporter, as I understood it, was like that of a sentinel on the battlements, to sound the note of warning of the approach of an enemy; the enemies of our institution, however, were not, in my opinion, to be looked for without, but within the Fraternity itself. Freemasonry has

withstood the fiercest religious, as well as political, persecution, and in my opinion, can withstand any persecution that might be brought against it by any powers from without. Its fundamental principles, the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, will prevail over all opposition. But the danger I apprehend is that which may come from within, in the shape of innovations, introduced in the desire to improve the Fraternity, which will result in the change of its fundamental principles."

We think Comp. Schultz is extreme in his consideration for members who do not contribute to the existence of their Chapters by the payment of dues. The law of Pennsylvania requires the Secretary of each Chapter, in the notices of the stated meeting, second preceding St. John the Evangelist's Day, to furnish each member a statement of the amount due by him up to said day inclusive, with notice, that if the same be not paid on or before the stated meeting next preceding St. John the Evangelist's Day, he may be suspended. A member so suspended, may, on the payment of all arrears of dues to the time of his suspension, be restored to membership within one year thereafter by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, at any stated meeting, after one month's notice to the members. After one year has passed, he may, on payment of all arrears, be restored to good Masonic standing by a majority vote. Chapters can remit the dues of such Companions as may be unable to pay. It appears to us that these provisions are fair to the Chapters and to their members. They do not oppress the unfortunate and they protect the organization from those disposed to shirk the payment of their proportion of the revenues of the Chapter. Pennsylvania, unlike Maryland and many other jurisdictions, does not publish in its printed proceedings, the names of those members who have been so negligent or unfortunate as to be suspended.

Comp. Schultz does not mince words in condemnation of "Cipher Rituals." He says he cannot conceive of a clearer violation of the landmarks of the Fraternity, than the use of printed or written Rituals of the *esoteric* work of Masonry.

No such books are permitted to be used in Pennsylvania Lodges or Chapters. Two of the concluding paragraphs of his admirable message, inspired by long years of experience, we take great satisfaction in transferring to these pages:

During the twenty-three years I have occupied the position of correspondent, I have examined many hundred volumes of the proceedings of Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters, and the comments thereupon of not less, I suppose, than one hundred and twenty correspondents. It affords me profound gratification to know that while I oftentimes combated vigorously the views of these brethren, I have never received ought but the most kind and courteous treatment at their hands, and oftentimes most flattering commendations of my labors in behalf of the Craft, and I shall carry with me into my retirement the most pleasing recollections of my intercourse with them.

It was my good fortune to have personally known the larger number of them. Many of them, alas! have passed to the undiscovered country. To those remaining I tender my most profound acknowledgement for the kind and courteous treatment received at their hands. I bid them God speed in the noble work in which they are engaged, and, though I am debarred the pleasure of reading their future reports, I hope that by the aid of kind friends, I will be enabled to keep in touch with them, and our grand old Fraternity generally.

Comp. William H. Martin was elected M. E. Grand High Priest and Comp. George L. McCahan was re-elected R. E. Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The Proceedings of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter for 1898, of the staid "Commonwealth of Massachusetts," are contained in a volume of over two hundred and twenty clearly printed pages. The volume is illustrated by an excellent portrait on steel of our friend and Companion, Seranus Bowen, M. E. Grand High Priest, and a *fac simile* of the seal of the Grand Chapter, bearing the date "March 13, 1798."

Quarterly Convocations were held March 8th, June 7th and September 13th, and an Annual Convocation, December 13th. M. E. Grand High Priest Bowen, on account of prolonged illness, was prevented from attending any of the Convocations, We were not aware of his affliction until apprised of it in June of the current year. We have a high regard for Comp. Bowen's many excellent personal qualities, his Masonic research, experience and service, and we express the ardent hope that his affliction may prove to be temporary, and that he may be spared yet many years to continue his great usefulness to the Fraternity. In the absence of the afflicted M. E. Grand High Priest, R. E. Deputy Grand High Priest Comp. Arthur T. Way, occupied his station.*

At the Quarterly Convocation, held March 8, 1898, a resolution was adopted expressing heartfelt sympathy for the M. E. Grand High Priest "in his distressing affliction." The Committee charged with making arrangements for the celebration of the Centennial of the Grand Chapter reported, that owing to the critical condition of the health of the M. E. Grand High Priest, it was impossible to suggest a definite day or specific plan for the event. As no further mention was made of the Centennial, we presume that on account of a continuance of Comp. Bowen's affliction, the project was abandoned. We regret this very much, as we had hoped that in the celebration, new facts would be presented bearing upon the introduction of Royal Arch Masonry in the Colony.

At the "One Hundredth Annual Convocation" in December, all the Chapter Degrees were exemplified. It is recorded that :

"The entire Exemplification took a very high standard. Its distinguishing features may be said to be found in its correctness, its faithful interpretation of the lessons portrayed by the Ritual, and the evenness with which each officer rendered his part of the work to his associates."

* After the above was written we learned that Comp. Bowen died April 7, 1899.

The cash on hand and investments in securities, amount to \$14,052.57, and the membership of the Subordinate Chapters numbers 15,557. The Annual Address was delivered by R. E. Deputy Grand High Priest. It is brief, and is limited to a recital of his official acts, which elicited the commendation of the Committee on Address as well as that of the Grand Chapter. Two dispensations were issued to Chapters to appear in public as bodies, one to attend Divine worship and the other to appear in procession on the occasion of the celebration of the Centennial of a Lodge. Such displays could not occur in Pennsylvania, for the Constitution of our Grand Chapter declares that:

“No procession or other public display of a Royal Arch Chapter, or Most Excellent or Mark Masters’ Lodge, as such, shall be allowed.”

Our Chapters are composed of Brothers who have passed the chair, either by service or dispensation, who are in good standing in Lodges within the Jurisdiction. In any ceremonies that may be designated “Public Ceremonies,” the Companions attending must appear among and as members of their respective Lodges.

Two dispensations were granted “to ballot upon applications within less than the required time.” The M. E. Grand High Priest in Pennsylvania is without authority to grant such dispensations. Our regulations as to receiving, referring, reporting and acting upon petitions for initiation and membership, are constitutional and cannot be dispensed with.

The report on “Foreign Correspondence” was submitted by Comp. J. Gilman Waite, M. E. Past Grand High Priest, in which the proceedings of forty-eight Grand Chapters are briefly but fairly reviewed. From his remarks under “Delaware,” it appears that he is opposed to *dependent* membership, that is, he combats the proposition that a member of a Chapter

must retain membership in a Lodge. In some jurisdictions, a Companion is permitted to resign his Lodge membership and remain in good standing in his Chapter. In support of his position he wrote :

“ Let a Mason support what he most appreciates and best can afford. In the majority of cases the reason why some of the bodies are dropped to the exclusion of others lies in fact that the officers do *not* make the meetings interesting to the members, who, becoming weary of the condition of affairs, dimit and seek pleasanter associations. The Grand Bodies would be doing a far better work for Masonry if they would devote their energies to the elevation of the standard of their Subordinates, rather than by the legislation of enactments to enable them to exist without effort. If a man is to “ appreciate what he pays for,” one of the first requisites he will claim will be the privilege of paying for what he wants. The old saying that, “ You can lead a horse to water but you cannot make him drink,” is just as true now as ever and we apply it thus : You may compel a Mason to pay dues in two or three bodies in order that he may retain his membership in one, but he will entertain no love for the one to which he pays money unwillingly and less respect for the Grand Body that compels him to do so.”

The Lodge is the Mason's mother. It was there that the Companion was permitted to take the first steps that led to the Supreme Degree of the Royal Arch, the consumation of Ancient Masonry. His first allegiance is due the Lodge. After enjoying the rights and privileges of Lodge membership is it fair? is it just? to permit him to repudiate his Masonic mother by withdrawing from membership and throwing upon his more loyal Brothers additional burdens to maintain the efficiency, if not the existence of the organization that gave him Masonic life?

In Pennsylvania, a Brother is as free to resign membership in a Lodge or Chapter as he was to attain it. But, if a member of a Chapter resigns from his Lodge and remains unaffiliated for more than six months, his membership in the Chapter ceases thereby. We think this constitutional provision is just, and that it is a wholesome restraint on the Brother who is

ambitious to attain the "higher degrees," and is willing, when his ambition has been gratified, to kick aside his Masonic mother, the Lodge.

Under Maine, several pages are devoted to the discussion between Comp. Drummond of Maine and Comp. Long of Indiana, of the subject of physical perfection. One of the disputants wrote:

"The old law of absolute physical perfection, that 'the candidate must be without blemish and have the full and proper use of his limbs,' has been changed by the General Grand Chapter, to the extent of enacting that 'It is incompetent for Royal Arch Chapters to confer the respective degrees of Masonry upon candidates whose physical defects are such as to prevent them from conforming literally to all the requirements of such Degrees.' "

The other disputant rejoined:

"There is no such old law and *never has been*; the law was not that 'the candidate must be without blemish and have the full and proper use of his limbs.' The law as given in the fourth 'Ancient Charge' is:

"No Master should take an Apprentice * * * * unless he be a perfect youth, *having no maim or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the art of serving his Master's Lord*, etc.

"There is no *sentiment* in this: it is pure, practical *business*; he must be physically capable of doing the work of an operative Mason. The 'without blemish' idea was probably originated by some 'physical perfection' crank, who would place an operative Mason on the same level as one ordained to priesthood!"

We quote these paragraphs from an extended discussion, merely to acquaint the Companions of this Jurisdiction with subject under consideration. Disputant No. 2 will have to go back at least as far as the year 926 to find the "physical perfection crank," as Disputant No. 1, correctly quoted the fifth paragraph of the constitutions adopted that year at York, England. As to perpetual jurisdiction, we are with Disputant No. 2.

Under Maryland, (1897), Comp. Schultz's Centennial address is favorably mentioned, but it is suggested that "the links of evidence by which he established conclusively, as it appears to him, a chain of evidence which marks the existence of bodies, that conferred the Degrees in the Capitular Rite, are in a measure broken or disconnected."

As we find the word "Order" used several times in this review by Comp. Waite, we must enter our protest against its use. Freemasonry is a "Fraternity" and not an "Order."

Under Missouri is written :

"The Grand High Priest decided that when an objection is made to a petition in writing, and placed on record before the ballot was spread, petition could not be renewed until the lapse of six months. While this is not the law in Massachusetts, we have always maintained that it should be."

In Pennsylvania, an objection will be entertained at any stage of procedure after the presentation of a petition, and before the conferring of the Mark Master's Degree. After the lapse of six months, the applicant objected to can present a *second* petition.

Pennsylvania's proceedings for 1897 are fraternally reviewed. Our Companion says of M. E. Grand High Priest Johnson's annual address, "that it was a direct and business-like statement of the duties he had performed during the year."

Comp. Waite quotes from our Chairman Henderson's review of Arkansas, in which the latter referred to the introduction of Royal Arch Masonry in America, and stated that "Our Jerusalem Chapter No. 3 is not only the oldest in the United States, but the oldest in America." Comp. W. then added :

"We give this item not so much for the purpose of discussion at this time as that it may appear to be unnoticed. It may not be improper to add, however, that we have never seen any cause for the retraction of our state-

ment made March 10, 1896, that 'We enjoy the distinction of having on our rolls the first organized Royal Arch Chapter in the country.' We do not establish our history from a 'minute-book,' but from authentic and well-preserved records, a liberal portion of which have been in print for many years for the good of the Fraternity. We shall recede from our position only upon the establishment of a better claim."

He does not inform us when this Chapter was organized. On referring to the list of Chapters in Massachusetts on page 58 of the proceedings of 1898, it is found that the oldest one there reported is St. Andrew's, date of Chapter, August 28, 1769. Comp. Alfred F. Chapman, M. E. Past General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter, wrote: "This Chapter held under the Warrant of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 82, Registry of Scotland, has its records from August 12, 1769." * Comp. Thomas Waterman, in his history, wrote:

"The first meeting recorded of this Chapter was held on the 28th day of August, 1769, and was then styled the Royal Arch Lodge, of which R. W. James Brown was Master. * * * No record appears between March 26, 1773, and March 20, 1789. * * * January 20, 1794, the words 'Royal Arch Chapter' are used for the first time in recording the proceedings of the Chapter."

In our Review of Massachusetts last year (pp. 149-151), we referred to Comp. Waite's statement, and cited some records. The reader is referred to those pages. What we write now is supplemental to that review.

All Lodges deriving their authority from the Grand Lodge (Ancients) of England were empowered to confer all the degrees of Ancient Masonry, including the Royal Arch. This right was affirmed by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in the adoption of the first Ahiman Rezon (or Book of the Constitution) in America, November 22, 1781, in language following:

* History of Freemasonry and Concordant Orders, 1891, p. 585.

“The members of the Grand Lodge, and of all Warranted Lodges, so far as they have abilities or numbers, have an undoubted right to exercise all degrees of the ancient craft, and consequently the *Royal Arch*; but no *Masons* of any denomination can hold *any Lodge* without a warrant for the place where held. Nevertheless, *Royal Arch Masons* must not at a procession, nor in any other place except in the *Royal Arch Lodge*, be distinguished by any garment or badge different from what belongs to them as officers or members of the *Grand* or their own private Lodge.”

In the preamble to the resolutions adopted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, November 23, 1795, under and by which a Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter was opened, it was declared that:

“It is the acknowledged right of all regular Warranted Lodges, so far as they have ability and numbers, to make Masons in the higher Degrees,” etc.

Also,

“Since many years there has been established in this city, according to Ancient Forms, a Royal Arch Chapter, under the sanction of the Warrant of Lodge No. 3, whose work has met with the approbation of all visiting Royal Arch Masons from the different parts of the world.”

And,

“The number of Royal Arch Masons is greatly increased, insomuch that other Chapters are established in this City and in other Parts of Pennsylvania,”

And,

“It was always contemplated that such Chapters regularly held, should be under the protection of this Grand Lodge,” etc.

At the date of the constituting of the present Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, there were several regular (Ancient) Lodges at work in the Province which became subordinate to the Grand Lodge, and were re-numbered by it. The oldest, Warranted by the Grand Lodge of England, June 7, 1758, and bearing the No. 69, was designated No. 2; others were numbered 3, 4, etc. No. 2 retained its original Warrant until February 10, 1780;

when the Warrant was surrendered and a new one was issued by the Grand Lodge, reciting the precedence of the Lodge. This Lodge does not appear to have had the Royal Arch Degree. It is yet existant and has about 200 members. No. 3 surrendered its Warrant in 1767 and received a new one bearing date October 20th of that year. The old Warrant and possibly the original Minute Book, were probably destroyed with other Grand Lodge archives during the British occupation of Philadelphia 1777-78.

Of this Lodge No. 3, and the Chapter under the authority of its Warrant, the Ahiman Rezon of 1825, contains, on page 89, the following account :

"The first royal Arch chapter of america, of which we possess a particular account, is that held in Pennsylvania, anterior to the year 1758. This chapter, working under the warrant of No. 3, was recognized by, and had communion with a military chapter, working under warrant 351,* granted by the grand lodge of england, and its proceedings were subsequently approved by that honorable body, as appears from a communication from its deputy grand master Dermott. Upon like principles other chapters were established in Pennsylvania."

This Lodge, variously designated in the old records as "No. 3," "Royal Arch Lodge," and "Jerusalem Chapter No. 3," has its minutes complete from October 22, 1767, down to the present day.**

After the organization of the Grand Chapter, independent of the Grand Lodge, Chapter No. 3 applied for and obtained a Warrant from the Grand Chapter, November 15, 1824. Its official title is now "Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapter No. 3" and it has a membership of about four hundred.

* It has been stated that the military command in possession of Warrant No. 351, was stationed in Philadelphia in 1758, and occupied the barracks located on the square bounded by Second, Third, Green and Buttonwood Streets.

** Last year, page 150, we wrote that Chapter No. 3 "has its minutes back as far as the meeting held December 3, 1763, when the minutes of the previous meetings were read and approved." An uncorrected typographical error made us say "1763" instead of "1767." We since found that the minutes extant begin with October 22, 1767.

The oldest minute book extant is headed "Transactions of Royal Arch Lodge No. 3" and the earliest record therein is of the meeting held October 22, 1767, mentioned above. In that year the Lodge had furniture and clothing for conferring the Royal Arch Degree as follows, viz: An Arch, the Vails, two Triangles, a Pedestal with lid, two Floor Cloths, three Crowns, three Sceptres, two Coronets and one Mitre. On December 3, "Brother John Hoodloss, proposed by Brother Henry Dawkins and Brother George Hawkins, it appearing by good authority he has been duly and lawfully entered, passed and raised at Fort Pitt,† in the year 1759, by our Brethren John Maine, James Woodward and Richard Ladley, all Royal Arch Masons."‡

In 1768 the minutes show payments ordered for sundry small articles in the preparation for the Royal Arch; for fixing the vails; for Treasurer's jewel and two triangles; and for iron work for the arch. During the next nine or ten years mention of the furniture and clothing and of the "Royal Arch Body," "Royal Arch Masons," etc., is frequently made. In 1783, the Royal Arch members of the Lodge began to meet statedly on the second Thursday of each month.

At a communication of the Grand Lodge held August 16, 1790, it was resolved to remove from its present meeting place, Vidall's Alley, Second Street, below Chestnut, to the Free Quaker Meeting House, the S. W. corner of Arch and Fifth Streets, a building yet standing, and a committee was appointed to carry the resolve into execution, and to confer with the committees of other Lodges, that might desire to occupy the room. The room was altered and occupied, and at a Com-

† Fort Pitt was on the site of Pittsburgh, Pa., and was then a British Military Post.

‡ December 9, 1767, it was decided by the Lodge that it would not be proper to admit Brother Hoodloss a member of the Lodge, or to enter, pass and raise any person belonging to the Army as there is a lawfully Warranted Body in the Royal Irish Regiment. This "Body" was probably Lodge No. 351.

munication held April 11, 1791, it was reported that "the expenses attending the moving and fitting up the present Lodge room, amounting together to £65, 11s., 10d.,* which, divided between the "Lodges Nos. 2, 3, 9, 19 and the Royal Arch Lodge, makes thirty-five dollars for each." Here is an official recognition of Royal Arch Lodge. At a Quarterly Grand Communication, held June 7, 1790, under the sub-head of "Vis. Brethren," is found "Benj. Street, from Norfolk in Virginia, R. Arch Mason."

"Royal Arch Lodge, No. 3," appears to have been the only Masonic body in Pennsylvania, subordinate to the Grand Lodge, that conferred the Royal Arch Degree until Harmony Chapter, No. 52 was opened under the Warrant to Harmony Lodge, No. 52, granted October 13, 1791. Military Lodge, No. 351, hitherto mentioned, appears from the minutes of Royal Arch Lodge, No. 3, to have been at work at the barracks in Philadelphia during the year 1774. On the 17th of March of that year, a request to Lodge No. 3, to loan certain furniture and clothing to Army Lodge, No. 351, to open a Royal Arch Lodge, was refused. The reason for this refusal does not appear on the records, but it is fair to assume that as a Grand Lodge had been duly constituted in Pennsylvania after No. 351 had first exercised its authority to confer the several degrees of Ancient Masonry, Royal Arch Lodge, No. 3, regarded this proposition of Lodge No. 351 as an invasion of its rights and those of the Grand Lodge of which it has become a loyal constituent.

On the 7th day of February, 1883, Jerusalem Chapter, No. 3, celebrated its One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Anniversary, in the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. The minute books were open to inspection showing a continuous and unbroken record

* Pennsylvania currency. A £ was equivalent to \$2.66⅔.

from 1767 down to 1883. Comp. Alfred P. Chapman, then M. E. Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, was in attendance, heard the addresses delivered and letters read, and at the banquet responded to the toast "Royal Arch Masonry." Seven years later, in 1890, he wrote of the Royal Arch Degree:*

"The records show that Royal Arch Lodge, No. 3, in Philadelphia, had the degree in 1767, and those of St. Andrew's Chapter, in Boston, first called Royal Arch Lodge, that the degree was conferred by it, first on August 28, 1769. Since that time it has remained secure to its superior place in Royal Arch Masonry. The term Royal Arch Lodge was succeeded by Chapter and Royal Arch Chapter. Chapter was used in Connecticut as early as September 5, 1783, in New York, April 29, 1791, in Massachusetts, December 19, 1794, and, it is not without reason to say at considerably earlier periods "

As the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania is not a constituent of the General Grand Chapter, Comp. Chapman will, at once, be acquitted of any charge of partiality toward Pennsylvania. He is, however, a voluntary witness testifying to the fact that Pennsylvania's Lodge No. 3, had the Royal Arch Degree *two years* before it was conferred by St. Andrew's Lodge in Boston.

Comp. Chapman in stating that "Chapter" was used "in Pennsylvania, September 5, 1789," does not give the oldest recorded date. Our Ahiman Rezon of 1781, page 50, recognizing an *existing condition* says:

"The Master of a particular Lodge has the right and authority of *calling his Lodge*, or congregating the members into a Chapter, at pleasure, upon application of any of the brethren, and upon any emergency and occurrence which in his judgment may require their meeting.

As the original Warrant for Royal Arch Lodge, designated No. 3 in the Warrant of 1767, is supposed to have been destroyed with other Grand Lodge records during the occupation of Philadelphia by the British in 1777-1778, as mentioned above, we are unable to ascertain its number or date. The

* "History of Freemasonry and Concordant Orders," page 601.

most reliable information as to its origin we quoted on page 150 of our review of 1898, and we reproduce it in this report.

Comp. Wm. James Hughan, of Truro, England, a Masonic historian of acknowledged ability, learning and research, invited to be present at the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Anniversary of Jerusalem Chapter No. 3, February 7, 1883, wrote to the Secretary of the Chapter:

“TRURO, ENGLAND, January 11, 1883.

“Your claim that No. 3 Chapter ‘*stands upon the Roll as the oldest Royal Arch Chapter in America*,’ is a sound one, and I endorse it most emphatically. There were only two sources that the United States brethren could or would obtain the Royal Arch early last century, viz.: either the regular or ‘Modern’ (so called), Grand Lodge, or the ‘Atholl’ Grand Lodge, or ‘*Ancients*’ (so called). The ‘*Moderns*’ in the semi-authoritative mode of adoption did not work the R. A. so soon as 1758, but the ‘*Ancients*’ did, as we know from the beginning, and mention is made of the degree in its records, A. D., 1752. It originated as a G. L. about 1750, *but there was a R. A. degree before then*, for it is alluded to in 1744, by Dr. Dassigny, in a printed work, the original of which is now in the Library of the G. L. of Iowa. * * *

“I consider that the Master Mason under the modern system is incomplete, until exalted to the R. A. Degree, and that the latter is the perfection and summit of Ancient Masonry. * * *

“Philadelphia had the first Lodge warranted in America by the ‘Moderns’ of 1730, the first ‘Ancient’ Lodge in the United States and the first R. A. Chapter.”

We have elsewhere in this report stated that Thomas Smith Webb, an active participant in the formation of what is now termed the General Grand Chapter, was exalted in Harmony Chapter No 52 of Philadelphia, May 18, 1796. On the twelfth of that month he visited Ancient Lodge No. 2, and on the twenty-first he visited Chapter No. 3. Prior to these dates, the Mark and Most Excellent Degrees were conferred in Philadelphia Chapters, and it is highly probable that Webb received these degrees during his sojourn in this city.

Since the preceding pages were written, we were favored with a pamphlet containing the "Historical Address delivered before the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, by Comp. Josiah H. Drummond, Past General Grand High Priest, at Baltimore, Md., October 13, 1897," printed in 1899.

We say with great pleasure, that this address evidences great research, and like many other of our venerated Companion's public utterances, it adds to his well-earned reputation as a Masonic historian.

He wrote:

"I have been unable to find that, up to 1795, [the date of the formation of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, J. S. A.] any Grand Lodge or any Subordinate Lodge, has in any manner whatever, interfered with the conferring of the Royal Arch degree, or exercising jurisdiction over it, *beyond allowing the use of the charter*. Then the only Masonic charter known in the York Rite was the charter of a Lodge, and the authority for conferring other degrees under it was not held from the Grand Lodge granting the charter, but, under the Masonic usage and the views of the Masons of that time, came from *the virtue inherent in a valid charter*."

Precisely so. Hence the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, awakened to the fact that Warrants of its Subordinate Lodges were used for an unlawful purpose, took official cognizance of the offense, and organized the first Grand Chapter on the continent, composed of Chapters working under its Warrants and conferring the Royal Arch Degree.

Comp. Drummond said :

"In 1793, John Hanmer, a skilled ritualist came from England to Albany, and imparted his work to Thomas Smith Webb, Ezra Ames and others. In 1796, Temple Lodge was formed at Albany, and on February 4, 1797, under the lead of Hanmer, Temple Chapter was organized. On the same evening three Brethren 'passed the chair' and were exalted. The week following Webb opened a Lodge of Most Excellent Masters, and conferred the degree on several candidates, *including* Hanmer. During the summer following, the Chapter continued to confer the three degrees."

As Webb was a visitor to Lodge No. 2 in Philadelphia, May 12, 1796, was exalted in Chapter, No. 52, May 18th, and visited Chapter No. 3, May 21st, he was familiar with the work of the Ancient York System of Pennsylvania, and as the Mark and Most Excellent Masters' Degrees, were conferred in Pennsylvania Chapters before 1796, he doubtless received those degrees in No. 52, and therefore, was qualified to confer the Most Excellent on Hanmer in 1797. It is not clear to us how "Hanmer, the skilled ritualist," could in 1793, lawfully impart any work save that of the Master Mason's Lodge to Webb, who did not receive any higher degrees until three years later.

From the evidence cited, we think that we have proven beyond all doubt:

I. The truth of our Chairman Henderson's statement, that "it is a historical fact that our Jerusalem Chapter, No. 3, is not only the oldest in the United States, but the oldest in America."

II. That the Royal Arch Degree was conferred in America first in Pennsylvania.

III. That the designation "Chapter" was used in Pennsylvania in 1781, earlier than elsewhere in the United States.

IV. That Royal Arch Lodge, No. 3, now represented in Capitular Masonry as Jerusalem Chapter No. 3, is not only the oldest Royal Arch organization in America, but the only one conferring the Royal Arch Degree, that can produce a continuous record from 1767 down to 1899.

Comp. Warren B. Ellis, of Boston, was chosen M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. J. Gilman Waite, R. E. Grand Secretary, but before this report will be presented to our Grand Chapter, December 27th, a new election will have been made for these officers.

While Pennsylvania and Massachusetts differ in some matters of minor detail, we compliment our Companions of that Jurisdiction in adhering to the ancient regulation requiring Quarterly Communications.

MICHIGAN.

At Detroit, on the seventeenth day of January, A.D. 1899, A. I. 2429, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons began its Fifty-first Annual Convocation, Comp. Charles M. Norton, M. E. Grand High Priest, in the East, and continued in session two days. Seventeen Past Grand High Priests present. In the total attendance of 310, all of the 121 Chapters were represented excepting three.

In his annual address the Grand High Priest said :

“ The past year has been an exceedingly satisfactory one, although our nation has been engaged in a cause which engrossed the attention of all, the feeling of patriotism being first in our hearts and minds. But while we render our grateful thanks to God for the victory gained, let us not forget those among us who are mourning the loss of some dear one who gave up his life for his country, and to them let us extend our sincere sympathy.”

He mentioned the death of Past Grand High Priest Daniel Striker, which occurred on April 12, 1898, and stated that obedient to his wishes, the funeral services were conducted without any civic display, and that he attended the simple services that formed the last physical acts that his friends could perform for him. The deaths of officers and past officers of sister Grand Chapters are also mentioned. Two decisions are reported which in Pennsylvania would be approved as good Masonic law, to wit: I. An objection to a petitioner for degrees and membership made *after* the applicant was approved, but *before* a degree was conferred, is equivalent to a rejection by ballot. II. After a petition has been referred to a

committee, it cannot be withdrawn. In Pennsylvania, the petition cannot be withdrawn from the Committee of Inquiry, but, if the report of the committee should be favorable (and such a report must be signed by all the members of the committee), it may be withdrawn by a majority vote of the members present. The Committee on Jurisprudence that acted as censor on several acts of the Grand High Priest, very sensibly approved these decisions.

The Grand High Priest was present at schools of instruction held by the Grand Lecturer at Lansing, Coldwater, Jackson and Pontiac, and he reported that:

“At each school there was a good attendance, and, from the interest manifested in the work by the companions and the ease and skill by which our Grand Lecturer explained all points in doubt, and brought to their attention some points forgotten, convinced the companions that he was the right man in the right place.”

Uniformity of Work is the desideratum in every Grand Jurisdiction. How is it to be secured? Some prefer the Grand Lecturer System, and others are averse to it. Some prefer printed Rituals, others do not. In “old foggy” Pennsylvania, we have no Grand Lecturers, nor do we tolerate printed Rituals, whether in plain English letters or cabalistic characters. Our Masonic System, practised ever since Freemasonry was introduced into the Province, more than one hundred and sixty years ago, has been oral, or the “mouth to ear” system, if that designation is preferred, and no other is permitted. The Most Excellent Grand High Priest is the conservator of the Work, and, as has been elsewhere mentioned in this review, it is imparted under his authority by the Schools of Instruction and by his Commissioned Deputy Grand High Priests, to the officers and members throughout the Jurisdiction.

From the report of the Grand Secretary, we learn that 127 of the 131 Chapters made returns. The membership is 13,413, a gain of 174 as compared with the preceding year. The balance in the Treasury is \$2,950.09, as against \$4,662.60 last year. The Grand Lecturer's report shows that he called 114 Chapters, and in nearly all cases they were represented; that he examined the records and pointed out the errors and made corrections. In very many instances he stated that the "Work" was well done.

A resolution was adopted by the Grand Chapter, instructing the Grand Secretary and Grand Lecturer "to draw up a form of record, whereby the Secretaries of Subordinate Chapters shall know the proper manner in which their minutes should be written." This action is to be commended. One new Chapter, No. 137, was constituted.

The Grand High Priest, having recommended "that it would be advantageous to this Grand Chapter to have an authorized Chapter Monitor, together with forms and ceremonies for installation of Officers of Grand and Constituent Chapters, constituting of new Chapters, reception of visitors, etc., to be published and copyrighted in the name of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Michigan," and the committee that criticises the Grand High Priest's address having approved his recommendation, and the same having been adopted by the Grand Chapter, he named a committee, consisting of three Companions, to consider this subject.

The Special Committee composed of four Past Grand High Priests and the Grand Secretary, charged with the duty of preparing a revision of the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of Order, the Penal Code and Blank Forms of the Grand Chapter, made report, transmitting the several codes prepared, and recommending that a liberal edition should be printed and distributed among the Grand and Past Grand Officers and the Subordinate Chapters, and that the consideration of said codes be made a special order for the evening of the first day of the next convocation. The report of the Committee was adopted.

The codes reported have, evidently, been well considered and are, doubtless, in general, suited to existing conditions in Capitular Masonry in the lake-girt State. Many of the proposed enactments are consonant with the ancient "Constitution rules, regulations and edicts" of Capitular Masonry in Pennsylvania, but others do not accord with our laws and usages hence, and some of our enthusiastic Companions are wont to say that "Masonry is a progressive science," while we in Pennsylvania hold that the fundamental laws of Masonry are unchangeable, we are not expected to keep step with our younger sisters in the guild of Capitular Masonry.

In the Constitutional Code presented :

Article 1, Section 4, declares "*That no officer can be installed by proxy.*" How can an officer *elect* be installed unless he is present and *personally* takes the obligation? Section 6, provides for taking a vote by *yeas and nays*. Where, in the ancient regulations of the Craft is such a procedure authorized?

Article II. In Pennsylvania we do not have proxies. Each Chapter at its annual election, chooses a Representative to the Grand Chapter. Each Past Grand High Priest, and the High Priest, King, and Scribe can attend in person, or they may instruct the Representative how to vote for them individually, but, in the absence of such instructions, he may cast the entire vote of his Chapter as he may choose.

Article III. Any Past High Priest may be elected to any office in the Grand Chapter. In Pennsylvania, a Brother cannot be elected Master unless he has served as a Warden of a Lodge, nor can a Companion be elected High Priest unless he has served as a Scribe or King of a Chapter. In Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter similar laws prevail.

Article IV. On petition of at least nine Royal Arch Masons, in good standing, who are not members of any Chapter, the Grand Chapter may grant a new Charter. If presented to the Grand High Priest or his Deputy, he may grant a dispensation having effect until the next Convocation of the Grand Chapter. In Pennsylvania, no Chapters are formed under dispensations. The Grand Chapter meeting five times each year, sufficient opportunity is offered to present new petitions to it and have them acted upon promptly. Under Article V the Grand High Priest is given power to exercise certain functions "when the Grand Chapter is not in session." The appointment of Standing Committees are authorized, but their duties do not seem to be defined.

The officers of Subordinate Chapters are to be elected in November or December before St. John's Day and to be installed on or before that day. This recognition of an ancient Masonic festal day is commendable. Chapters are required "to hold to a strict account all members who may be guilty of intemperance or profane swearing." An extension of this restraint to other latitudes and longitudes would not hurt the Fraternity. A petition for Chapter Degrees must be presented to the Chapter nearest the place of residence of the petitioner unless that Chapter shall, by unanimous consent waive its jurisdiction. There does not seem to be any provision allowing a second or subsequent ballot on a petition.

Under this code, the Grand High Priest and the several High Priests will continue to be chairman only of the Masonic meetings over which they preside. They do not have the appointment of any of the officers. As we have elsewhere stated, in Pennsylvania, all the officers below the rank of Secretary are appointed by the Grand High Priest or by the High Priest, respectively, and can be summarily removed for neglect or violation of duty.

This code has been carefully framed, and with the exceptions noted and some others that might be mentioned, it would meet approval in this Jurisdiction, but, trained as we have been, in the observance of the "Ancient usages and customs of the Fraternity," we cannot accept the modern innovations of a yearly "Convocation," or of shearing the Grand High Priest of the prerogatives that belong to him as the head of Capitular Masonry. These expressions may appear strong to Companions of other Jurisdictions of recent age, but, before passing hasty judgment thereon, we beg of them to consider that they were written in a Jurisdiction where Royal Arch Masonry was introduced nearly a century and a half ago, and where, as we believe, it is yet exemplified with the least innovations. One other Jurisdiction, that of the "Old Bay State," (perhaps one or two more) adheres to the ancient custom of holding quarterly "Convocations," and as it has completed its centennial, it will not go back on its former record.

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence is the joint production of Comps. Conover, Greene and Bemiss. Comp. Greene notes the proceedings of Pennsylvania's One Hundred and Second Annual Communication, held December 27, 1897, as well as the Quarterlies held March 4th, June 3d, September 2d and December 2d.

Comp. Greene wrote :

"The highest numbered Chapter is 279, indicating that there had been that many Chapters chartered, but the returns show that only 121 are now living, and of these only 23 were represented at the annual convocation and 12 of these were from the City of Philadelphia. At the first quarterly convocation there were 44 represented, at the second 46, at the third 46, and at the fourth 79. From these facts it would seem that there is something radically wrong somewhere. Why have there so many chapters dropped out entirely and why so few of those remaining represented at these convocations. The latter question is answered in a single paragraph by Comp. Africa in his review of Michigan, where he says :

"As the Masonic world knows, the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania meets statedly five times annually, in four Quarterly and one Annual Grand Communication. No member is paid either per diem or mileage for attendance. The members who attend are there without hope of 'reward.'

"Yes, Comp. Africa that is true, but only a few are there, those in Philadelphia or near there where it costs nothing to attend. The rest of the state is without the benefits of attending. If it is good for those in and around Philadelphia to be there it would be good for all the other chapters to be represented. We believe it would be to the interests of the Royal Craft of Pennsylvania if provisions were made to pay the expenses of representatives so that every chapter might be represented."

In reply to some of our Companion's comments, we would remark that under the "Ancient" System of Pennsylvania, it was held that every Lodge as far as it had ability or numbers could confer the Royal Arch. This right was distinctly declared in our Ahiman Rezon in 1781, also, that "The Master of a particular Lodge has the right and authority of *calling his Lodge*, or congregating the members into a chapter, at pleasure," etc. On our roster, No. 1 was reserved for the Grand Lodge; No. 2 does not appear to have conferred the Royal Arch; No 3 did, and it is in existence to-day and is known as Jerusalem Chapter No. 3. Scores of other Lodges, from lack of "ability or numbers" never attempted to confer the Royal Arch, hence the wide gaps between No. 3 and those of modern date. To the persecutions of political Anti-Masonry the extinction of some Chapters may be attributed. A new Warrant is never issued in Pennsylvania to correspond with an unused or extinct number.

As to pecuniary reward from the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania for attendance at its Communications, we do not approve of it. At the Quarterly Communication, held December 7, 1899, many Past Grand High Priests from Chapters from one to four hundred miles distant, were in attendance, "without hope of fee or reward."

Comp. Greene quotes four decisions reported by M. E. Grand High Priest Johnson and wrote that this address is a well-written account of his official acts.

In this report of ninety-two pages, the action of 47 Grand Chapters and of their respective Grand High Priests are briefly but fraternally noted. The next Annual Convocation, to be held January 16, 1900, will have met and been closed before these pages have been printed.

Comp. Frank N. Clark, Northville, M. E. Grand High Priest; Comp. Jefferson S. Conover, Coldwater, R. E. Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA.

On the 10th of October, A. D. 1899, A. I. 2429, the Grand Chapter held its Thirty-eighth Annual Convocation in the City of St. Paul. Fifty-six of the 61 Chapters were represented. We quote the opening paragraph of the address of M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Isaac L. Hart:

"As we meet on this October morn, in thirty-eighth annual convocation, to review the doings of the past year amongst the Royal Craft of the North Star State, may we not be unmindful of the grateful acknowledgements we owe to the Great Ruler of the Universe for His goodness and kindness in permitting us to again assemble and exchange friendly greetings, as well as to rejoice that His will has brought to our whole country bountiful harvests and prosperity."

A page is devoted to mention of the deaths of officers and past officers of other jurisdictions. The Grand High Priest constituted, in person, two new Chapters, to wit: Marshall, No. 65, on November 29, 1898, and Eahtonka, No. 64, at Ortonville, on November 30, 1898. Wadena, No. 66, was constituted December 5, 1898, by Past Grand High Priest Comp. A. Brandenburg, who acted under authority granted by the Grand High Priest. The latter visited Blue Earth, No. 7, at

Mankato, March 23d; Signet, No. 61, at Fulda, March 27th; Living Arch, No. 28, at Worthington, April 13th; Ark, No. 53, in Minneapolis, May 19th; Minnesota, No. 1, September 5th; and Washington, No. 16, at Stillwater, September 7th. Like in many other jurisdictions, he found some Chapters well housed, with proper furniture and clothing and well skilled officers, and others lacking in these important matters. Referring to one of the Chapters visited, that has considerably over one hundred members, he stated that the officers are sadly deficient in the work and have taken no interest in it for a long while, and that a quorum of the members was not present and no effort was made to secure one.

The Grand High Priest granted a number of dispensations to elect officers where a quorum was not present on the night of the annual election. A number of applications were made for dispensations to receive and ballot upon petitions the same evening. Only two were granted. In Pennsylvania, the Grand High Priest is not vested with authority to dispense with the constitutional requirement that an applicant for the Capitular Degrees or for membership, *must* apply by petition to be presented at a stated meeting, which petition *must* be referred to a Committee of Inquiry, which *shall* report to the next or some subsequent stated meeting, not exceeding four months after the presentation of the petition. He can, however, at his pleasure, confer any of the Degrees of Capitular Masonry; but the Companion so made is not a member of any Chapter and can obtain membership only by complying with the method prescribed by the Constitution.

We regret to note that the report of the R. E. Grand Secretary, Comp. Thomas Montgomery, is not flattering as to finances, or to increase of membership. The receipts for the year were \$2,636.50, and the expenditures were \$3,155.03, a loss of over \$500. The largest item of disbursement was

\$843.60, "pay roll for 1898." For 1899, this item was augmented to \$1,013.50. Without increased revenues, this jurisdiction cannot long withstand this annual drain. In Pennsylvania, no elective officers or representatives of Chapters receive *per diem* pay or mileage from the Treasury of the Grand Chapter, for attending its Communications. The membership is reported at 4,996, an increase of only 48 over the preceding year.

The Report on Correspondence, covering sixty-four pages, is the tenth from the pen of Comp. Thomas Montgomery, R. E. Grand Secretary, and Chairman of the Committee. We transfer one of his prefatory paragraphs as follows, to wit:

"Having an eye to economy, as our funds are rapidly decreasing, this report will be shorter than usual. For this reason we have not entered into any discussion of questions which seem to divide, temporarily at least, the writers on Capitular law and usage, as our views and practice in this jurisdiction are now pretty well known. Notwithstanding the existence of the General Grand Chapter, with its constitution and regulations, which we are all sworn to support and maintain, the tendency is for each Grand Chapter, like each Grand Lodge, to be a law unto itself; and because the General Grand Chapter, unwisely, we think, divested itself of the power to enforce its own laws of general application, they are wholly ignored, and laws are enacted quite contrary thereto. For instance, one Grand Chapter over-ruled the general law, and a decision of its Grand High Priest; that nine members of the chapter must be present at stated convocations to open and transact the regular business; by voting that five members, including one entitled to preside, and four visitors, were sufficient. The interchange of thought, however, through these reports and otherwise, has a strong tendency to harmonize conflicting views and to keep us from drifting away from the established usages and customs of the Craft."

Under Arkansas, he copies these two paragraphs from the Grand High Priest's address, which we cordially approve, to-wit:

"A good and efficient secretary may well be retained, but as to all other officers, I believe that a second term should be the limit, unless strong reasons appear for a contrary course.

The prosperity and vigor of every chapter depend more on the capacity, zeal and energy of its secretary than upon all its other officers combined. Show me a chapter where the secretary is business-like in his methods; where he is prompt in notifying the members of all meetings; always on time with the minutes of the last preceeding convocation, and with his returns to the Grand Chapter, and, above all, prompt and energetic in the collection of dues, and I will point you to a live, flourishing, prosperous chapter. A failure to collect dues is a fruitful source of death and decay. A vast majority of Companions can and will pay if properly and promptly 'dunned' by the secretary. This duty neglected, they fall behind; the amount becomes so large that they feel unable to pay it; they lose interest, cease to attend and 'there you are.' Companions look well to your secretaries."

We endorse these paragraphs copied from Delaware, 1899:

"We are unalterably in favor of dependent membership. We think that a Mason should as soon forsake the mother that gave him birth, as to forsake the lodge that made it possible for him to proceed further in our organization. * * *

We are not disposed to find fault with the operations of the craft in other jurisdictions, but we do think that the special dispensation business is very much overdone in all jurisdictions. It very often transpires that the man who is in the greatest hurry to obtain a thing, places the smallest value upon it when once in his grasp. Make haste slowly, companions; life is short, we know, but there is time enough to do a thing well."

Under Pennsylvania, the Four Quarterly and the Annual Communication of 1898, are noted, and the proceedings had at each. In mentioning the Report on Correspondence, Comp. Montgomery wrote that the centre group was reviewed by one of the members of the Committee: "Who, in over five pages, gives our proceedings of last year a kind and satisfactory review."

Why should it be otherwise? We are all members of one Guild. While by education, or other circumstance, we differ in non-essential details, it is at once useless and unfraternal to foment discord while all agree and assent to the fundamental principles of Freemasonry. Nearly all of the Grand Chapters of the United States have acknowledged the supremacy of the

General Grand Chapter (Pennsylvania and some others excepted), yet we find in Comp. Montgomery's prefatory remarks, quoted above, that the jurisdiction predicated by the Grand Chapters on this allegiance to the General Grand Chapter, is but little more than a rope of sand. If the General Grand Chapter has not the power to enforce its edicts, or if it has the power and does not enforce them, of what use is this extra organization? "The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, and Masonic Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging" is supreme and sovereign, and any invasion of its rights or territory would be met with instant resistance. If the General Grand Chapter is "supreme and sovereign" why does it permit its constituents to nullify its decrees?

Under Indiana we learn that the Grand Chapter of that State withheld recognition of the Grand Chapter of New Zealand. Montana and Oregon, however, gave it recognition. In the table of statistics, brought down to later dates than those in Comp. Phelps' Nebraska report, Comp. Montgomery credits Pennsylvania with the greatest increase of membership, 486, in 1898: Ohio next with an increase of 485, then Massachusetts with 343, and New York with 228.

Comp. Montgomery's review of all the American Grand Chapters except four, is covered by sixty-five printed pages, and the work is intelligently and creditably done. The pamphlet of Proceedings embellished by a portrait of the retiring Grand High Priest, Comp. Isaac L. Hart, contains 109 pages. The next annual Convocation will be held in St. Paul, on the 2d Tuesday of October, 1900.

Comp. Josiah A. Peck, Wabasha, M. E. Grand High Priest;
Comp. Thomas Montgomery, St. Paul, R. E. Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI.

The Fiftieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter was held at Water Valley, February 9th and 10th, A. D., 1898, A. I. 2428.

The Grand Chapter was organized May 18, 1846, but the meetings in 1862 and 1863 were omitted by reason of the state of war that then prevailed.

The retiring M. E. Grand High Priest Comp. Frank P. Jenkins, delivered his Annual Address. We copy, with decided approval, the opening sentence, to wit :

“ Again it is our privilege to gather around our sacred altar, offer our prayers and thanks to our Heavenly Father for His protection and care, and renew our friendship for each other. The year that has passed should be full of pleasant memories. We have had so many evidences of God’s goodness that gratitude and love for Him should be written upon the tablets of every heart. He has given us the rays of sunlight, and refreshing showers of rain have come to us, and we have reaped a bountiful harvest. The floods submerged a large and profitable section of our state, and destitution and distress for a while prevailed, but when the waters did recede, although it appeared rather late in the season for a full yield, yet still their labors were crowned with abundant success. The bleak shadows of a yellow fever epidemic hovered about us, but it manifested only a mild type of this dreadful scourge, and rigid quarantine regulations and close attention from experienced physicians and nurses, rendered its spread and fatality of little consequence except in some places, in comparison with other years, when it caused so much sorrow, gloom and desolation. For all this we should sing songs of praise and gladness to our Great Protector and Preserver, How can any one living in our great State, surrounded by so many blessings, be otherwise than grateful? We may be tossed upon billows of troubles and submerged beneath the waves of misfortune, but if we place our trust and confidence in our God, He is able and will deliver us. ‘ From behind a frowning Providence, He hides a smiling face.’ ”

The deaths of prominent Past Grand Officers of other Jurisdictions were noted and four Chapters were reported revived. Dispensations were granted : to authorize a Chapter to act on petitions the night it was constituted ; to act at once on

certain petitions; to receive and ballot on a petition of a candidate and to confer the degrees; and to ballot out of time on certain petitions. If we correctly understand the scope of these several dispensations, we would say that a Grand High Priest in Pennsylvania is without authority to issue any one of them. Companions of other Jurisdictions are disposed to say that we in Pennsylvania award to the Grand High Priest arbitrary and unlimited powers. While we recognize that there are certain prerogatives inherent in the Grand High Priest that have become Landmarks, which no Constitution nor action of Grand Chapter can limit nor deprive him of, outside of these, he is as much bound to observe the other Landmarks and the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of his Grand Chapter as the humblest Companion in the Jurisdiction, hence, while in the exercise of his prerogative, he may confer the Capitular Degrees upon any Master Mason of good standing at sight, the recipient cannot become a *member* of a Chapter without going through the Ancient Formula of presenting a petition for membership, just as any other non-affiliated Companion or Brother is required to do.

On page 16, it is reported that all the Officers of the Grand Chapter from Grand High Priest to Grand Sentinel, both included, were *elected*, and on page 21 it is stated that the Grand *High Priest appointed* the Grand Principal Sojourner, Grand Royal Arch Captain, and the Grand Masters of the Vails. Which statement is correct? It does not appear from the report of the proceedings that any of the officers elected or appointed were installed. Hypercritical reviewers might make a great ado about this omission, but we are sufficiently fraternal and charitable, to assume that the record of the installation of the new officers was omitted from the printed proceedings through an oversight of the copyist. With the same fraternal and charitable consideration, we overlook the

error in not distinguishing the transactions of the Grand Chapter of the 9th from those of the 10th of February, 1898.

The report of the Grand Lecturer, Comp. A. G. Smith, shows a commendable zeal on his part to give needed instruction to the Companions of the Jurisdiction; but he did not meet with that encouragement he should have received from the various Chapters.

Under the reports of the Law Committee, which were adopted by the Grand Chapter, it is found :

“The Committee on Capitular Law beg leave to report that the only question submitted to them during the year, was as to whether one of our Chapters could ask a Chapter of another jurisdiction to confer the degrees, as its proxy, under Sec. 28, of the Regulations, and if so, whether the fees should be collected by our Chapter or the foreign one doing the work? To which your Committee replied : It does not matter whether the Chapter selected to confer the degrees is one in this State or another, but the entire fee must be paid before asking another Chapter to confer the degrees ; it is indispensable that this should be done.”

The Committee recommended that all the dispensations granted by the Grand High Priest be approved except :

I. That for a Chapter to act on petition on the night it was constituted, was in violation of a regulation which requires that all petitions shall be presented at a stated convocation ; and which is not the subject of a dispensation.

II. The dispensations to certain Chapters “to act at once on petitions of certain Brethren, it not appearing that the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, or Grand Lecturer was present in person, or that the petitions had been made at a stated Convocation.”

The Capitular Law of Pennsylvania declares :

“One Chapter cannot delegate to another the advancement of any Mason ; nor can a Chapter advance any but its own members ; nor can a Chapter give its consent to a Chapter out of this Jurisdiction to receive a petition from or confer any degree upon a resident of this Jurisdiction.”

The Grand Secretary, in his report (the twenty-eighth), stated that, while this was the Fiftieth Annual Convocation, it was the fifty-second year of the Grand Chapter; the Convocations which ordinarily would have been held in 1862 and 1863 were omitted, for reasons stated in a preceding paragraph of this review.

He gave a synoptical sketch of the formation of the Grand Chapter, May 18, 1846; the names of the Companions who served as Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary from that date until the current year, and a brief review of the condition of the Chapters. On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Grand Chapter directed that this part of the Grand Secretary's report should be referred to a special committee. Our Companions of Mississippi should elaborate the record of the Semi-Centennial of their Grand Chapter, and put the same into permanent form, for the enlightenment and edification of the Companions who may participate in the celebration of the Centennial.

The Freemasons of Pennsylvania deeply regret that, during the occupation of Philadelphia by the British forces, 1777-1778, the first records of the present Grand Lodge were lost or destroyed; but rejoice that the parchment Charter, issued by the Grand Lodge of England (Ancients), and its venerable tin case, escaped the despoiling hand of the invader, and is now safe in the fireproof vault of our Masonic Temple. The minutes of the first Grand Lodge (designated the Moderns) seems to have shared the fate of those of the Ancients. There is, however, in the archives of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, the original Ledger, "Libre B," of St. John's Lodge, containing the accounts of the members from June 24, 1731, to June 24, 1738, inclusive. Among its accounts are those of "Wm. Button, late Master," "Wm. Allen, Esq., Grandmr.," and "Benj. Franklin." This is the oldest authenticated Masonic Account Book on the Continent.

The "Journal of the Lodge held at the Tun Tavern in Water Street," (Philadelphia) from June 28, 1749, to June 24, 1755, was recently found, and a photographic copy thereof was placed in the library of the Grand Lodge. Still later, "Benj. Franklin's Journal, began July 4, 1730," was found among the archives of the American Philosophical Society of this city, of which Society Franklin was the first President. It shows, "Sept. 9, 1731," a charge for "Blanks for Masons, 100,5s.", which were, without doubt, petitions for initiation and membership. In 1734, Bro. Franklin printed Anderson's "The Constitutions of the Freemasons," the first Masonic book published in America. His account book shows charges against the "Lodge of Masons at B. Hubbards," 1734; "Aug. 31, 3 Constitutions, by John Catherwood, Lanc'r County, 7:6." On Aug. 15, 1734, he sent "Constitutions to Boston, 70, Carolina, 25—£11:17:6;" Sept., 1734, "for tickets 1,000, £4:3:4: for a finely gilded copy to the Proprietor, 5s.; for one Do for the Lodge, 5s." We rejoice that so many independent incidents relating to our early Masonic history are coming to light from time to time.

The Grand Chapter of Mississippi has safely passed the first half century of its existence; many prominent citizens of that State became active workers in the Guild and added to the force and dignity of the stations with which they were honored by the Fraternity; some have passed to the life beyond the grave and others remain. Incidents in the lives of these officer-bearers should be collated and put in form for preservation.

In the 42 Chapters that made returns, 1434 members are reported.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is as usual from the pen of Past Grand High Priest P. M. Savery in which the proceedings of over 40 Grand Chapters are reviewed. Being

restricted in space, the notices of most of the proceedings are brief, and consist chiefly of well-chosen extracts with occasional comments. Pennsylvania's volume for 1896 is favorably noted. Quotations are made from the addresses of the outgoing and incoming M. E. Grand High Priests, Comps. Bartlett and Johnson. Comp. Savery referred to our explanation in 1896, of the mode of electing officers of Masonic bodies in Pennsylvania and added:

"We think our usual mode of nomination and one ballot for all saves time and unnecessary expense.

"In our opinion it would take from four to six hours to elect all the Grand Officers if nominations were dispensed with in Mississippi."

There is doubtless a marked difference in theory, law and practice between Mississippi and Pennsylvania. Here, in Pennsylvania, the Grand High Priest "is supreme in all matters concerning Capitular Masonry, except when the Grand Chapter limits his power by its Constitution." Observing the ancient regulation, the officers down to and including the Secretary are elected by ballot. All subordinate officers are appointed by the Grand High Priest. The *elective* officers are installed and hold their tenure independent of the Grand High Priest, and can be removed only by the Grand Chapter. The *appointed* officers are not installed, and can be removed by the Grand High Priest at his pleasure. Subordination and hence *esprit du corps* is thus secured. If a subordinate officer should manifest a recalcitrant spirit, he would be forthwith deposed and another Companion would be put in his place. This, it seems to us, to be necessary to the supremacy of the Grand High Priest.

We act upon the theory that the choice of elective officers must be spontaneous, hence it has been decreed by our Grand Lodge that:

"Caucusing, nominating or electioneering for Masonic stations is unmasonic."

As to the election of the five Constitutional Grand Officers, to wit, for High Priest,, King, Scribe, Treasurer and Secretary, tellers are appointed for each elective station, and all are balloted for at the same time. It is rare that a second ballot is required excepting sometimes in the election for Grand Scribe.

Comp. Savery quotes our remarks under Maine (1896) about "Ancient York Masons," and those under Missouri protesting against the use of the word "Order" to designate any body of Symbolic or Capitular Freemasons, and he indorses our views; also a paragraph under Minnesota concerning printed and copyrighted manuals; and he concludes his report by invoking a blessing upon the Companions collectively.

Comp. Rev. Jno. A. B. Jones, Magnolia, M. E. Grand High Priest; Comp. J. L. Power, Jackson, R. E. Grand Secretary.

1899.

On Tuesday, February 7th, A. D. 1899, A. I. 2429, our Companions of this Jurisdiction met in the Fifty-First Annual Convocation of their Grand Royal Arch Chapter at Vicksburg.

Companion Rev. Jno. A. B. Jones, M. E. Grand High Priest, began his annual address by saying:

"It gives me great pleasure to greet you in this the Fifty-First Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, and with a heart filled with gratitude, to unite with you at our sacred altar, in devotion of prayer and praise to our Heavenly Father, the giver of every good and perfect gift, who has so kindly brought us safely through the dangers, the toils, and the snares of another eventful year.

I congratulate you, companions, and rejoice with you for the honor and the pleasure of enjoying the hospitality of this famous city nestled among these historic hills. Vicksburg has an enviable and imperishable record. Here, more than half a century since, May 17th, A. D. 1846, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Mississippi was organized in this Masonic Temple. Here have lived, and labored, and fallen upon sleep, many distinguished Masons, whose names will ever have an honored and conspicuous place in our priceless archives, and whose valorous deeds, skillful, true, and square work, will endure through all generations, inspiring monuments to their

zeal, devotion, and fidelity to the Craft. And from these lofty elevations, overlooking the great father of waters, shines forth the clear light of our ancient order—the light sought after, and recognized at home and abroad as the true, legal light of Masonry.”

We give place to the following paragraph from the excellent address to illustrate how innovations are permitted to be engrafted on our “ancient usages and customs.”

“There is a custom, of unknown origin, venerable with age, honored from remote antiquity by renowned mitred potentates—that of wearing a Signet Ring, and placing this emblem of distinction and authority upon the finger of the preferred individual. Pharoah thus honored Joseph, Ahasuarus thus invested Mordecai with authority to vindicate his people and protect the beautiful and beloved Queen Esther, and thus Darius evidenced the promotion of Daniel. Without example in the history and traditions of our ancient brothers and companions, our distinguished companion Col. J. L. Power, the worthy, efficient, and beloved Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter, and the Senior Grand Secretary known of any Grand Jurisdiction, has demonstrated his skill as an original designer. He deserves highest commendation for the motive which prompted him to present a ‘Signet Ring of pure gold’ to this Grand Chapter. It was the ardent desire and purpose of our Grand Secretary to have this Signet Ring at the Annual Convocation in Water Valley, February, 1898, as he then reported to the Grand Chapter: ‘This I desire on this semi-centennial occasion to present to this Grand Chapter, as a token of my love for and gratitude to it and all its members for all their courtesies and kindness in the past, and that it may help to perpetuate among the Royal Craft in Mississippi the memory of one whose ambition has been to bring from the quarries work fit for inspection.’ The skilled Tubal Cain to whom this work was committed was delayed in the execution of the original, unique, beautiful, and elaborate design. April 2, 1898, I received from Companion Power this valuable gift, a memorial of his devotion to Capitular Masonry. In *due* if not in *ancient* form, with appropriate and very impressive ceremony, this Signet Ring was placed upon my finger. I sincerely appreciate the honor of being the first Grand High Priest to wear this ‘Signet Ring of pure gold.’

It bears this legend beautifully engraved on the inner side of the ring: ‘Fiftieth Convocation, 1898. From J. L. Power, Grand Secretary.’

I recommend that this Grand Chapter, now assembled, formally accept this Signet Ring, and that the wish of our Grand Secretary be observed in the future, namely—to make the formal placing of this ring upon the finger of the Grand High Priest, with the investing with the other emblems of

office, a part of the installation ceremony. The thorough acquaintance with the ancient teachings, customs, and landmarks, the devotion, zeal, efficiency, and long continued service of the giver, justify and demand the observance of this purely Mississippi, and innocent ceremony."

It will be observed that our Reverend Companion says that this addition to the installation ceremony is "purely Mississippi and innocent ceremony."

The Constitution requiring the presence of nine members of a Chapter necessary to proceed to work, the Grand High Priest refused to issue a dispensation to count visiting Royal Arch Masons so as make up the required number—quorum—as it is called there. In Pennsylvania, a Chapter can be opened if three Royal Arch Masons are present, but degrees cannot be conferred unless six are in attendance. Two decisions made by the Grand High Priest are good Masonic law. We epitomize them as follows:

"I. A Brother 'afflicted from birth with something like paralysis in his legs and arms,' is not qualified to receive the Capitular Degrees.

II. A Dispensation cannot be granted to communicate the Royal Arch Degree to a brother by simply permitting him 'to see a full class of three take it.' "

From the report of the Grand Secretary, it is learned that after paying all expenses, there remained a balance of \$862.92 on hand. There are 42 working Chapters. The 39 that made report have a total membership of 1,358, a net gain of 24.

A report of the Committee on Capitular Law adopted by the Grand Chapter declares in effect:

"I. When the Committee of Inquiry on a petition of a candidate reports that the candidate has been rejected by another Chapter, that ends the matter.

II. A petition can be withdrawn before the Committee of Inquiry has reported, but not afterwards, by a two-thirds vote of the members present."

In Pennsylvania, all action on petitions are reported to the

Grand Secretary who keeps an accurate record thereof. A ballot cannot be taken until inquiry has been made of the Grand Secretary, by the Secretary of the Chapter, if there is anything on the records of the Grand Chapter against the petitioner, and a favorable reply has been received from that officer. A petition cannot be withdrawn until after a favorable report has been made thereon by all the members of the Committee of Inquiry, and then only by permission of a majority of all the members present. The rule is that there must be *unanimity* before initiation. A favorable report not signed by all the members of the Committee is equivalent to a rejection.

The Grand High Priest having presented a communication from the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand, dated August 1, 1898, requesting recognition and interchange of representatives, he stated that he replied in substance that the Grand Chapter must wait until the request for recognition be made known to his Grand Chapter and the answer returned, "for it is the province of the Grand Chapter to recognize new bodies." This part of his address was referred to a special committee of three, Comps. Hudson, Clifton and Myers. The report of these Companions, adopted by the Grand Chapter, is as follows :

"Your Committee appointed to report on the action of the Grand High Priest in his reply to the Supreme Chapter of New Zealand, beg leave to report that we have examined the same and approve his action, and regard his reply as fraternal and appropriate."

Pennsylvania felt compelled to decline a similar request, but our Companions of Mississippi appear to have evaded direct response to the one made to their Grand Chapter. As their action is recorded, there is no recognition of the Grand Chapter of New Zealand and hence no agreement to exchange representatives.

A joint Conference Committee, appointed by the Grand Council to confer with a committee of the Grand Chapter on the subject of a salary for a Grand Lecturer to serve both Grand Bodies, recommended that the Grand Lecturer should receive an annual salary of \$500, to be paid by the Grand Chapter, to be supplemented by \$166.67 to be paid by the Grand Council, on condition that he shall visit all dormant and semi-dormant Chapters and Councils free of expense to them, and that active Chapters and Councils, desiring his services, shall pay for them as usual. This report was adopted.

Any method for securing uniformity of work within a Grand Jurisdiction, and reviving struggling Chapters therein, is to be commended. The system we have in Pennsylvania, that of District Deputy Grand High Priests, is perhaps not applicable to Jurisdictions of smaller memberships, but we confess astonishment at a Grand Chapter joining hands with an organization not known in Ancient Freemasonry, in the appointment of a Lecturer who is to divide his time in laboring in the interests of both.

On page 49, 8 Chapters are reported dormant. The statistical summary for 1898, which does not accord with the Grand Secretary's report above referred to, shows the number of members in 43 Chapters reporting as 1450.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, prepared by Past Grand High Priest P. M. Savery, includes the proceedings of 43 American Grand Chapters. It covers about forty-eight printed pages. On Pennsylvania, twenty-one lines are bestowed. More than one-third of them are as follows:

"Committee on Correspondence still consists of five members, each having a part of the work to do. Companion J. Simpson Africa had his pro rata in charge, in which Mississippi for 1897 was awarded a place. In comments on power granted High Priest, his Deputy and Grand Lecturer, he thinks Mississippi has interposed safeguard in wrong place. He may be correct,

but the rules that govern a city or thickly settled communities, as in Pennsylvania, will not always be applicable in sparsely settled districts like much of the territory of Mississippi."

We extract these gems from his "Conclusion :"

"Ritual subject of general interest ; in fact, the elephant of each Grand Jurisdiction.

Hindoo Theology and History of Black Hawk War taught in the schools.

Blue ribbon animal of 'General Grand' not allowed to graze in some of the back yards.

No probability of uniformity of work and lectures during lifetime of ye ancient masons."

Such are the comments of a venerated Past Grand High Priest of a sister Jurisdiction, yet Pennsylvania is solicited to become a constituent of the General Grand Chapter. What would be gained thereby ?

Other items of our venerated Companion's conclusions we endorse to wit :

"Proficiency should be required in every degree before advancement to next.

Homes for aged Masons, their destitute widows and orphans, are attracting much attention, and are veritable object lessons to the world of the worth of Freemasonry.

Bureaus of information or correspondence have done much to bring about harmony and uniformity in matters of law and Masonic usage, but completely fail on *Ritual*.

Said Committees have ever guarded landmarks, preserved history, garnered valuable statistics, improved (?) on traditions ; in fact, done and performed work that obtained valuable information, which otherwise would be unknown to the Craft."

There are many topics discussed in this carefully considered review that we would be glad to refer to, but, as it was received by the Committee only a short time before our Masonic year closed, we must quit now.

The pamphlet of one hundred and six pages is enriched by a portrait of Comp. Rev. John A. B. Jones, the retiring M. E. Grand High Priest.

The next Annual Convocation will be held in the city of Meridian, on Tuesday, February 20, 1900.

Comp. Thos. B. Franklin, M. E. Grand High Priest, Columbus; Comp. J. L. Power, R. E. Grand Secretary, Jackson.

MISSOURI.

The Report of the Official Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri, at its Fifty-third Annual Convocation, held at St. Louis, April 27, A. D. 1899, A. I. 2429, comes to us in a neat volume of nearly two hundred pages, printed on good paper from clear-faced type. Officers of the General Grand Chapter and a Past Grand High Priest of Iowa were in attendance.

From the excellent Annual Address of Comp. Charles S. Glaspell, M. E. Grand High Priest, we take pleasure in presenting these extracts :

“Companions, the honor of Royal Arch Masonry is in our keeping. As Royal Arch Masons, we are bound together by the sacred ties of love and purity of character. As guardians of eternal truth, we should ever be faithful in performing the sacred duties assigned to us. As Royal Arch Masons, commissioned to dispense true Masonic light and wisdom, we should ever whisper peace and good will unto the souls of men ; teaching them to seek peace and pursue it. Hold fast to the seven-fold tie of brotherly love and affection ; forget not that as Royal Arch Masons we are battling for light and truth ; be true and faithful, and the chariot of truth, drawn by angelic wings of love, will bear us into the presence of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. There darkness and prejudice will be removed, and the light of Royal Arch Masonry will prevail.

If we profit aright from the lessons taught us, our altars and tabernacles may become the abode of the great I AM, as those around which the children of Israel chanted praises and offered up sacrifices to the one living and true God ; and our lives shine with virtues more beautiful than the robes and jewels worn by Solomon in all his glory.

Think, then, of the responsibilities which rest upon us ; how careful we should be of our individual acts, that no slur can be cast upon the grand institution we represent. May the great truths and the enthusiasm which inspired our ancient Craftsmen abide with us and never die. I trust it will be placed forcibly and fearlessly before you, that upon no occasion should we permit the teachings and virtues of our noble Order [Fraternity, J. S. A.] to fall into disrepute. Our standard of moral perfection should be elevated, not lowered.

Do we appreciate the many blessings conferred upon us ? Are we, as Royal Arch Masons, fulfilling our mission ? What tears have we dried ? What widows and orphans have we assisted ? What fallen Companions have we lifted up and encouraged to live better lives ? Have we, my beloved Companions, applied these principles in our daily walk ? Have we that faith in God and each other ; that charity which covers the frailties of man, and cheers us with the hope of eternal life ? If so, we may be proud of the name of Mason, and strive to make our lives accord with our Masonic principles."

We transfer with approval his remarks on Dispensations:

"Many of those applying for these dispensations know that they are illegal, but want the Grand High Priest to help them cheat their consciences. Our laws plainly require that all applications for degrees and affiliation shall remain in the hands of the investigating committee for a stated period. This law is not merely directory, but it is positive. Convenience and the desire to increase the membership of a Chapter, however laudable, is not, and should not, be considered a sufficient reason for violating the law. Had the dispensations been granted, and the degrees conferred, what knowledge of Capitular Masonry would the brethren have gained ? What impressions received ? How long would they have remained members of the Chapter ? Probably some, if not all, of these applicants have been Masons for years, with ample opportunities for receiving the degrees ; and when application is made, the members of the Chapter want to rush them through the degrees for fear of losing them. If the degrees are worth receiving, they are worth careful study. My observation is that those who have waited the allotted time prescribed by law, and carefully studied the sublime truths taught, are the ones who best appreciate them. It is sufficient to say that all such applications have been refused."

He visited 24 Chapters and beside conferring two hundred and forty-four degrees on various candidates, he spent much time in imparting instruction to officers and Companions. His missionary work with struggling Chapters seems to have been productive of good results. One new Chapter was constituted by Dispensation, at Kennett, Duncklin County, January 4, 1899.

He made fitting remarks and recommendations as to the Masonic Home and as to the collation of the records of individual Royal Arch Masons whose membership has been placed on the rolls of the Grand Chapter, all of which were read and adopted.

The "Cipher Ritual" agitation did not overstep Missouri. A committee appointed at the last preceding Convocation, "to prepare and edit the Cipher Ritual of the work of this Grand Chapter and to provide for its distribution," reported that it had performed its duty in having two hundred copies of the Monitor printed and bound and distributed. In Pennsylvania such action would not be considered for one moment; we would regard it as a most flagrant violation as one of the oldest of the sacred landmarks of the Fraternity.

The financial condition of the Grand Chapter is good. The balance on hand,

March 1, 1898, was	\$9,795.70
Received during the year,	7,369.50
	<hr/>
	\$17,165.20
Payments during the year,	6,774.60
	<hr/>
Balance on hand March 1, 1899,	\$10,390.60

Comp. Wm. H. Mayo, R. E. Grand Secretary, presented the report on Fraternal Correspondence, his twentieth.

The Grand Chapter of Alabama having amended its Constitution so as to permit Chapters to confer degrees on ministers of the gospel active in their ministerial functions, without the payment of fees, Comp. Mayo remarked :

“We very much doubt the propriety and wisdom in admitting any one, no matter what his profession or business is, within the Veils of the Tabernacle free of charge.”

He referred under Arkansas to the address of the Grand High Priest deploring the growing evil of rushing candidates through the Chapter, and to his concurring with M. E. Comp. Irvine, of Iowa, in recommending that “no candidate be received in the Chapter until after he has been a Master Mason for at least six months.” Comp. Irvine takes the proper position. Neither the Lodge nor Chapter should be used as a ladder merely for the purpose of attaining the so-called “higher degrees.” In Pennsylvania “passing the Chair” is a ceremony performed in the Lodge and is the only method by which a Brother can become a Past Master. We have Past Masters by “service” and by “dispensation.” The former, only, are members of the Grand Lodge; the latter attain that honor only by dispensations issued by the Grand Master or his District Deputies, on petitions of Master Masons of six months standing, recommended by the Masters and Wardens of their respective Lodges. The Grand Master has the inherent right to dispense with the six months’ probation but it is only exercised in cases of great emergency.

Under Delaware, our Companion wrote that he favored the Grand Representative system and believed “that a report from each Grand Representative would go far to cultivate and maintain intimate relations between the several Grand Jurisdictions.” We do not hold such views. The Representatives are without any powers, and if each made an annual report, the proceedings of their respective Grand Chapters would be

largely swollen by *unofficial*, and often inaccurate, statements of transactions that later come in compact and *official* form. Our individual judgment is that the system has outlined its usefulness.

Under District of Columbia we find:

“Our old and much esteemed Companion, William R. Singleton, again wields the pen in the reportorial corps for his Companions, and while his reports are usually short, they are full of food for the cultured mind.

Missouri was well treated, and in commenting on M. E. Comp. Kuhn's decision, viz: ‘To elect an officer by acclamation is contrary to Masonic usage, and such a motion should not be entertained by the Excellent High Priest.’

He said, and we concur, notwithstanding the action of our Grand Chapter:

We can assure the Grand High Priest that it is *not* contrary to Masonic usage. The oldest Grand Lodge in the world, that of England, has so chosen her Grand Master ever since 1717. In many of our oldest Grand Lodges in the United States it is a custom to do so when occasion requires. In the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, a few years since, all the Grand Officers were thus chosen. We like the custom, as it demonstrates the true spirit of Masonry, and that there is no rivalry, no ill feeling, as is often displayed in elections where some favorite is defeated after a bitter contest.”

That sounds very nice, and might apply to those Jurisdictions where by “influence” a Companion, having secured an appointment or election to a subordinate place, by the *lex non scripta* of that Jurisdiction he is morally sure of promotion, step by step, until the highest station has been obtained.

The “Modern” Grand Lodge of England from 1721 down to the union with the “Ancients” in 1813, and the “Ancients” from 1756 to the union, sought a “titled” gentleman, or one of “royal blood,” to be Grand Master. And in the United Grand Lodge from 1813 down to the present date the same rule was observed, and acclamation was obeisance to “royal blood.” In the American Colonies the rule was different, particularly so in the choice of Lodge officers.

We happen to have at hand a part of the minutes of the "Modern" Lodge held at Tun Tavern, Tun Alley and Water Street, Philadelphia, from June 28, 1749. Among the records we find:

"At a Lodge held on Wednesday, the 27th of Dec., 1749, at the Tun Tavern in Water Street, Philada.

Present: [Officers, members and visitors named.]

Balot being Ordered for New Officers for the Ensuing Six Months it being done, accordingly in due form, the Master in the Chair declared

Brother Mullan, Mr.

Swan, S, W.

Mayhew, J. W.

Mullen, Treasurer.

Brother Mullan in the Chair appointed Brother Murry, Secy. for the Ensuing Six Months."

This extract shows the practice in Pennsylvania a century and a half ago.

Under Indiana, the Report of the Committee on Correspondence, adverse to recognition of the Grand Chapter of New Zealand is quoted. The reasons for the action of the Committee are pretty much the same as those given by the Pennsylvania Committee.

Comp. Mayo mentions the Quarterly and Annual Communications of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania in 1898; its action in the matter of the application of the Grand Chapter of New Zealand for recognition; quotes largely from the addresses of the outgoing and incoming M. E. Grand High Priests; and gives place to an extract from the report of the Committee on Correspondence relating to the method of imparting instruction in Capitular work. He also gracefully mentions fraternal treatment of his Grand Chapter and himself by our Committee.

Under Vermont, we find it stated that the Grand High Priest of that Jurisdiction had granted a large number of

Dispensations to ballot out of time. We take great pleasure in copying his remarks, which we cordially endorse, to wit:

“In granting these Dispensations to ballot on candidates without waiting the legal time, I have followed in the line of my predecessors; but, candidly, I do not believe it best for the interests of Royal Arch Masonry to railroad candidates through the degrees in this manner. The case must be very exceptional indeed where the candidate could not wait another month before starting on his journey. Perhaps if left behind a little longer he might, like those of old, find more precious treasure. Some Grand Jurisdictions will not allow a Dispensation to ballot on a candidate before the specified time. Others require that a fee of three dollars accompany the application, this fee to be turned into the treasury by the Grand High Priest. I believe the former to be the better; but the latter would tend to lessen the calls for Special Dispensations. If it is to be of a good deal of benefit to the Chapter that the Dispensation be granted, then they would be willing to pay for it. I present this matter for your consideration, but make no recommendation in the matter.”

The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, ever ready to concede the inherent rights of its Grand Master—at the same time carefully guarding the rights of the individual members of the Fraternity—declared, much more than a century ago, that:

“NO LODGE shall *make* more than FIVE new brethren at one time, unless by dispensation from the Grand Master, or Deputy in his absence; nor shall any person be *made* or admitted a member of a Lodge without being proposed *one month* before, that due notice may be given to all the members to make the necessary enquiries into the candidate's character, and that there may be such *unanimity* in the election and admission of members as the laws require; nor can there be any *dispensation* in this case, because unanimity is essential to the *being* of every Lodge, and its own members are the best judges in the matter; for if it were allowed that any *foreign* or even *superior* jurisdiction might impose a fractious or disagreeable member upon them, it might destroy their harmony, and would intrench upon their *liberty*, to the great injury, if not the total dissolution of such Lodge.”

The Grand Master has authority to make a “Mason at sight,” or by Dispensation; but, unless the applicant has presented a petition to a Lodge, been balloted for and approved, he is not a member of any Lodge, and he will remain an unaffiliated Mason until he presents a petition for membership, which

must take the regular course of being referred to a Committee of Inquiry, be reported upon and balloted for. The same law applies to the Grand High Priest and to Chapters.

A bribe of three dollars ought not to be considered as an inducement to set aside an ancient right that belongs to the members of every Lodge and Chapter.

Under Washington, we are informed that four Dispensations were granted to "ballot out of time."

West Virginia had referred the applications of the Grand Chapters of New Zealand and New South Wales to the Committee on Jurisprudence; which, in turn, recommended that they be referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

The volume of proceedings, of nearly two hundred pages, opens with a good portrait of Past Grand High Priest Glasspell; and, near the end, we find a valuable table of "Royal Arch Statistics for 1898."

The next Annual Convocation will be held in Kansas City, April 25, 1900.

Comp. Henry L. Bosworth, Springfield, M. E. Grand High Priest; Comp. William H. Mayo, St. Louis, R. E. Grand Secretary.

MONTANA.

The proceedings of the Tenth Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, held at the city of Helena, on the 19th day of September, A. D. 1899, A. I. 2429, are contained in a handsome pamphlet of one hundred and forty-two pages.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Squire C. Kenyon, delivered a brief address recounting the official acts performed by him during the year. The deaths of Grand Officers and

Past Grand Officers of other Jurisdictions are mentioned. The law of this Jurisdiction does not require members of Chapters to be affiliated with Master Masons' Lodges and the Grand High Priest recommended that the law be changed making such affiliation obligatory.

There are 15 Chapters. The net gain in membership was 20, bringing the aggregate to 832. The receipts were \$954; payments, \$664.93; balance in the treasury, \$1385.42. Five hundred dollars were appropriated to a special fund to be known as the "Endowment Fund of the Grand Chapter of Montana," for the benefit of a Masonic Home, and 10 per cent. of the net annual receipts are to be appropriated for the increase of the fund. Taking into consideration the amount of money now on hand, and the small annual revenue of the Grand Chapter, the Companions have been commendably liberal to this deserving charity.

Besides several interesting statistical tables and a "Digest of Approved Decisions" rendered in a number of sister Jurisdictions, Comp. Cornelius Hedges, Grand Secretary, devotes over eighty pages to a review of the proceedings of the American Grand Chapters. Under Alabama we read: "There is but one decision reported, and that on a case too plain to need a decision, to wit: That after a petition has been received, referred, and reported on, it could not be withdrawn." In Pennsylvania, a petition for the degrees and membership may be withdrawn after a favorable report shall have been made, by permission of a majority of all the members present, but it cannot be withdrawn after a ballot has been taken.

Connecticut's Centennial, held May 10, 1898, and the various addresses delivered on that occasion were fully noted.

Under Maine we find this:

"We are not yet impressed with the necessity of the corporal presence of the charter and the necessity of showing it to every visitor is not like

producing a title deed in court. In not one case in a thousand does the visitor know or can know that the charter shown is genuine."

The law in Pennsylvania is mandatory in requiring that the Warrant "must always be displayed in the Chapter when it is opened, and during its labors." It is not taken from its place to be shown to visitors.

Under New York this gem appears:

"Patriotism as well as morality are inseparable from our masonry. With all the clinging reverence that masonry inculcates to the past, we think more of the future; grateful to the fathers, we are more hopeful of the sons. Masonry has plenty of room for growth in all directions, and is still far from maturity. Wherever a Moses falls there is a Joshua to lead on and every David is succeeded by a Solomon. Our Great Captain never changes though the lieutenants change often."

And this is culled from the review of New Hampshire:

"The Treasury balance of \$1,164.37, increased by receipts from the Grand Chapter \$1,111.75, disappeared leaving only \$383.44 at the close of the year. The chief explanation of this decline is to be found in the item of \$672.50 paid for jewels for their Past Grand High Priests.

While this looks like a piece of extravagance to some, we presume that our N. H. Companions regarded it as payment of arrears of indebtedness.

If it had been put into a scholarship to help some worthy son of a mason to go through Dartmouth College, we believe it would have been more satisfactorily bestowed."

The proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania receive a notice covering over two pages. Comp. Hedges expresses thanks for information given as to the early history of our Grand Chapter. The word "demit" is not used in this Jurisdiction. A petition for a new Chapter "must be accompanied with Certificates from the Chapter or Chapters to which the petitioners last belonged, or other satisfactory evidence of the good Masonic standing of the petitioners, and that they are not members of any Chapter."

When a Companion resigns membership, "he shall be entitled to a Certificate," which sets forth that he has regularly withdrawn, etc.

On page 59 of Comp. Hedges' excellent review he wrote :

"It is a historic fact that the General Grand Chapter antedates every Grand Chapter."

In this statement he is in error. The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania was established November 23, 1795, while the General Grand Chapter dates from January 24, 1798, which was then organized in Hartford, Conn., by delegates from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York Chapters under the title of "The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America." Its Jurisdiction was limited to the New England States and New York. On the 9th of January, 1806, a meeting was held at Middletown, Conn., at which representatives were present from Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont and New York. At this meeting a new title was assumed as follows : "The General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America," and it was attempted to extend Jurisdiction over the whole country.

Albert G. Mackey wrote :

"This year, (1806) may, therefore, be considered the true date of the establishment of the General Grand Chapter."

Thomas Smith Webb was an active promoter of the organization that was afterwards known as the General Grand Chapter. He was born in Boston, October 13, 1771, and became a printer or book-binder. He was initiated into Ancient Craft Masonry in Rising Sun Lodge, Keene, New Hampshire, in November or December, 1792. On the register of Harmony Chapter, No. 52 of Pennsylvania, it is shown that Webb was exalted in that Chapter May 18, 1796, and his name appears as a visitor to Chapter No. 3, May 21, 1796. On May 12th, of the same year he was a visitor to Lodge No. 2.

While Montana is a constituent of the General Grand Chapter, Comp. Hedges is not enthusiastic in his allegiance to the

Sovereign Body, and throughout his readable and creditable review, he throws out some paragraphs, that might subject him to the pains of insubordination. We cull these remarks:

Under General Grand Chapter:

"As the law seems to be, the Grand Chapters are the principal bodies in the Capitular system, the reservoir of all powers not specially granted to the Grand Chapter, which are very few."

Under Arkansas:

"When Grand Chapters are formed in all the states and territories, as must soon be the case, there will be mighty little use of a General Grand Chapter. It will become a sort of '*caput mortuum*,' or a Triennial General Grand Picnic. Well, we can stand it if others can. Only we commiserate the poor old thing and would leave Grand out of the title, and would suggest for its seal the motto, '*Nomen et preterea nihil*.'"

Under Maine:

"As one not familiar with the controversy in which the General Grand Chapter was virtually deprived of all its original powers, we naturally compassionate its forlorn condition. Historically considered the General Grand Chapter seems to have antedated the Grand Chapters and their superiority claimed is simply usurpation. It seems singular as the case is that Pennsylvania, Virginia and Texas should hesitate to join these Triennial picknicks and become companionable."

Under Oregon:

"Of the original powers of General Grand Chapter there is no question, and some think it rightfully possesses them still. While we have probably enjoyed the Triennial reunions as much as anyone, we would like to see General Grand have the powers that originally and rightfully belonged to it. If it is only to hold jurisdiction over unoccupied fields its mission will soon end and its existence might as well cease, and Grand Chapters become as independent as Grand Lodges. Surely to take an outing, to participate in luxurious banquets, and elect a few officers with no power and nothing to do, is not sufficiently '*raison d'etre*,' however enjoyable."

The pamphlet of proceedings has as a frontispiece a portrait of the retiring M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Kenyon.

The next Convocation of the Grand Chapter will be held at the city of Great Falls, September 18, 1900.

Comp. Alfred Balmforth, Butte, M. E. Grand High Priest ;
Comp. Cornelius Hedges, Helena, R. E. Grand Secretary.

NEBRASKA.

In the city of Omaha, on December 14, A. D. 1898, A. I. 2428, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of this State began its Thirty-second Annual Convocation, which continued two days. The Grand High Priest, detained by sickness, Comp. John J. Mercer, R. E. Deputy Grand High Priest, occupied his station. A short address from the former and a fuller one from the latter, are largely, devoted to local matters and notices of the deaths of Companions of Nebraska and sister Jurisdictions. Of the 52 Chapters, 25 were represented. Petitions for Warrants for two new Chapters were received, and the Grand Lecturer was instructed to visit the petitioners and examine them as to their ability to conduct the business of a Chapter. His report was not favorable and Warrants were not granted. This action is to be commended. The formation of Chapters in localities where sufficient acceptable material does not exist, or where the petitioners have not the experience and ability to perform Capitular work, should be discouraged.

The Grand Treasurer reported a balance in his hands of \$2,660.25, with orders out amounting to \$124.46, leaving a net balance of \$2,535.79. The number of Royal Arch Masons October 31, 1897, was 2,967 ; October 31, 1898, 2,919 ; loss 48. All the officers below the station of Grand Treasurer are appointed. The financial affairs of the Grand Chapter are discreetly managed. The revenues are husbanded, expenditures economized and a strict accounting enforced.

Resolutions were adopted requiring the Grand Secretary to give a bond in the sum of \$1,000, and the Grand Treasurer one in the sum of \$3,000, and requesting Subordinate Chapters to follow the same course with their financial officers. The resolution offered December 16, 1897, and quoted in our review of 1898, page 174, declaring against the policy of incorporating Masonic bodies, was adopted. In this matter the Grand Chapter has wisely adhered to the ancient custom of the Fraternity.

Under the heading of "Returns of Chapters," is found a brief sketch of each Chapter, giving its official name and number, location, date of creation, date when chartered, date of regular convocations, description of seal, names of principal officers, names of all Past High Priests with their years of service, and if deceased or dimitted. The extinct Chapters are also noted. This table contains much valuable information.

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Comp. Charles J. Phelps, Past Grand High Priest. In about one hundred and nine pages, he gave a careful review of the proceedings of 48 American Grand Chapters, and supplemented it with a valuable table of statistics. From the latter we learn that Massachusetts made the largest net gain in membership, 576, and Pennsylvania was next with 534.

It is noticeable, throughout this review, as in former ones, where reference is made to Companions of other Jurisdictions whose christian names are represented in their Grand Chapter reports by initials, that a blank is left, apparently for the insertion of the full name like this: J—— W. Brown. These are gentle hints that Grand Chapters should notice, and should lead them to adopt regulations requiring at least one christian name of all officers and Companions to be written out in full in all official papers.

Under Kansas we read :

“The Grand Lecturer, owing to a desire on the part of the Grand High Priest to economize, made few visits, and in one case only except where the chapter paid the *per diem* and expenses. He is of opinion that the grand-lecture system is the best system of disseminating the work and stimulating enthusiasm. The writer has for a long time been of the opinion that the presiding officer in a lodge or chapter should possess qualifications and ‘enthusiasm’ sufficient to instruct the Craft, as his opportunities to do so are better than those of a Grand Lecturer, who visits for a day or two only, and that with such a presiding officer there is no need for a Grand Lecturer. Without a competent member for Master, or High Priest, the lodge or chapter will never succeed, and the sooner any given body learns the necessity for such membership the better for that body.”

We cordially endorse our Companion’s concluding sentence, but a member to be “competent” must be instructed. In Pennsylvania the official work is imparted by the Grand High Priest on his official visitations, by his Deputies in their respective districts, and by the recognized Schools of Instruction. In many Jurisdictions much of that labor devolves on the Grand Lecturers.

The Centennial celebrations held in 1897, in the Jurisdiction of our sister Grand Chapter just across the Mason and Dixon line, are fittingly noted. Mention is also made of North Carolina’s Semi-Centennial and Rhode Island’s Centennial celebrations, both held in 1898.

Under Oregon, 1898, we find this quotation from Comp. Hodson’s comment on the report of the correspondent of Nebraska, which we copy with approval :

“He advocates, and we think correctly, that the Grand High Priest, in his sphere is entitled to all the prerogatives enjoyed by Grand Masters. Although in the American system of Masonry, chapters are an entirely separate organization, we have always believed that upon any given principle, Ancient Craft law, based upon the ancient charges and landmarks, should prevail throughout the entire system. The difficulty is that our system of political government is in theory entirely representative, with a tendency to continual change ; hence the idea of a right to legislate for itself, independent of all landmarks, is hard to eradicate from the mind of

Young America. Who dares to suggest to him that he does not know twice as much as his father? While to speak of his grandfather, or remoter generations, why, they were simply 'not in it.'"

The proceedings had at the four Quarterly and the Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapters of Pennsylvania, held during the year 1898, including the decisions of the M. E. Grand High Priest, his granting of dispensations and visitations to Chapters, are briefly noted. The names of the Companions composing our Committee on Correspondence are given, and liberal extracts are made from its report. Comp. Phelps adds:

"Nebraska, 1895 (he should have written 1896) fell among those assigned to Comp. Africa, who quotes liberally from the Grand High Priest's address and commends the review for that year; expresses surprise that Nebraska's decisions are so nearly in accord with the construction given Masonic law in Pennsylvania, in view of the wide divergence of age and locality, and extends most fraternal compliments on behalf of his Grand Chapter to its sister beyond the Missouri."

On page 3583, our Companion wrote of the Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania:

"After installation, he, at this communication (St. John's Day, December 27th), installs his officers, elective and appointive, and appoints his committees for the ensuing year."

As is elsewhere stated in this review, in Pennsylvania, all officers below the rank of Grand Secretary are appointed. They are *not* installed, and they hold their places at the will of the M. E. Grand High Priest. The elective officers—the Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary and the Past Grand High Priests—only receive the title of "Most Excellent." Our system does not recognize the titles of "Right Excellent" and "Excellent." The same rules govern Subordinate Chapters. Nebraska differs from Pennsylvania and numerous other Grand Jurisdictions in ranking the Grand Secretary above the Grand Treasurer. With us, all elective positions are officially desig-

nated "stations;" while appointed officers occupy "places." The precedence of the Grand Treasurer over the Grand Secretary was established by our Ahiman Rezon of 1781, page 85, the oldest American Constitution, and we adhere to it to-day.

Comp. Albert G. Mackey, a recognized authority on Masonic Jurisprudence, and with no partiality to our Pennsylvania system, in his Encyclopedia of Masonry, page 543, gave the Grand Treasurer precedence in rank to the Grand Secretary. Chase, in his Digest of Masonic Law, Boston, 1864, in enumerating the officers of American Grand Lodges, places the Grand Treasurer before the Grand Secretary.

In our system, we claim that we are adhering to that promulgated in the general regulations compiled by George Payne in 1720, when he was Grand Master, and approved by the Grand Lodge of England in 1721, wherein the Grand Treasurer was recognized as superior in rank to the Grand Secretary.

Aside from these minor differences, we are pleased to note that Nebraska and Pennsylvania largely agree in the construing and application of Capitular law.

Comp. Phelps, wherever opportunity offered in his review wrote pointedly, favoring the recognition in Grand High Priests of the prerogatives vested in Grand Masters. Pennsylvania is unitedly with him on that subject. But we fear that his Grand Chapter does not acknowledge that the Grand High Priest possesses any such powers. The proceedings before us show that every official act of that officer was either passed upon directly by the Grand Chapter, or referred to a committee, reported back with recommendations, and then acted upon. What prerogatives, then, does he enjoy?

Our Companion devotes some space, under "Virginia," to an account of a threatened rupture of the fraternal relations

between that State and Pennsylvania, Chapters in this State having refused admission to Virginia Companions, because they declined to subscribe to a test oath that they were not clandestine Masons. The Grand Chapter of that State wisely set aside the objectionable edict of the Grand High Priest, and peace prevailed. Comp. Phelps remarked:

“This attempt on the part of the Grand High Priest of Virginia to resurrect and clothe with respectability the dead carcass of that particular clandestine body labeled ‘Cerneau’ could but ignominiously fail. The light of Masonic landmark, Constitution, and custom, shines so steadily for the guidance of the Craft in these days, that a fraud of the proportions of the Cerneau monster cannot hope to escape swift detection and utter confusion.”

Comp. John J. Mercer, Omaha, M. E. Grand High Priest;
Comp. William R. Bowen, Omaha, R. E. Grand Secretary.

NEVADA.

In Virginia City, on Monday, the 12th day of June, A. I. 2429, the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of this Jurisdiction met in its Twenty-sixth Annual Convocation. Seven of its eight Chapters were represented.

The retiring M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. John M. McCormack presented an address almost wholly limited to local interests. He visited Humboldt, the Junior Chapter, at Winnemucca, and remained three days, giving the officers instruction in the work. Other visitations were made to No. 2, Virginia City and No. 1 at Carson City, besides unofficial visits elsewhere. He reported the Chapters all officered with skilled Craftsman and that their work conforms with that adopted by the Grand Chapter. His recommendation “that each candidate for the Chapter Degrees be required to learn the lecture of each degree and to pass an examination in open Lodge, (Chapter ?) before advancing to a higher degree, the same as in the Symbolic Degrees,” was adopted.

Comp. A. D. Bird's report on Foreign Correspondence covers fifty-two pages and deals with the proceedings of 45 Grand Chapters.

Under Pennsylvania he noted briefly the more important transactions of our Grand Chapter at its four Quarterly Communications in 1898, and the declination of the Grand Chapter to recognize the Grand Chapter of New Zealand for reasons stated in a special report of the Committee on Correspondence which is printed in full. He playfully refers to our finances and financial officers as follows :

Comp. Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer have their books looked over every Quarter. About tax time, you know, the tax collectors need watching. We compared receipts so as to see where the two Companions above mentioned needed watching the most, viz: First Quarter \$4,657; second \$1,051; third \$573; fourth \$8,069. These are large amounts to Masons in Nevada, so Companions of the Finance Committee you had better watch them all the time.

The Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of the land of Penn strictly observe several of the "Old Regulations," that most of the Grand Bodies of America have ignored. One of these is to hold Quarterly Communications in March, June, September and December of each year, and an Annual Communication "on St. John's Day; or if it be a Sunday, then on the next day."

In our Ahiman Rezon, adopted November 22, 1781, it is provided that

"The Grand Treasurer, or his Assistant or Clerk shall always be present in the Lodge, and ready to attend the Grand Master and other Grand Officers, with his books for inspection when required; and likewise any Grand Committee that may be appointed for adjusting and examining his accounts."

The Constitution of the Grand Chapter directs that the Grand Treasurer

"Shall keep fair and regular accounts of his receipts and disbursements, to be submitted to the Committee on Finance whenever required, and shall, within five days after the 20th day of November in each year, submit to said Committee his books, accounts and vouchers for its examination."

The Committee on Finance examines the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, at stated times before each Quarterly Communication and makes a report at each of the Communications. The fiscal year ends with the 20th day of November, hence at the December Quarterly, the Committee makes both a Quarterly and an Annual report.

Our Companion fell into error in stating the Quarterly receipts for 1898, by including in each Quarter, the balance on hand at the beginning of the Quarter. The gross amount of receipts for the year was \$8,069.80.

He copies the last paragraph of our Chairman's introductory remarks and he thus notices another member of the Committee on Correspondence.

"Nevada's Review falls to Comp. J. Simpson Africa. Having treated our Jurisdiction exceptionally fine we will not consign him to the country his name calls for unless some unknown Uncle leaves us a diamond mine there, then we will share it in partnership."

It is only necessary to remind our Companion that the country to which he refers was the seat of a very early civilization and the probable birth-place of our Mysteries. A Past Grand Master of Masons of Pennsylvania, only a few months over a year after surrendering the emblem of authority to his successor, died within the confines of that country and, in response to the request of the then Grand Master of Pennsylvania, on the evening of the day the vital spark fled, a meeting of Lataif Lodge was held in Cairo, Egypt, when the usual ceremonies in honor of the dead were performed in a language we could not understand. Would it then be punishment to

consign a Pennsylvania Mason to a country where centuries ago our Mysteries originated and where they are now practiced?

Although we are members of a Guild whose foundation principles are universal, we are subject to the imperfections of humanity, and we are likely to be biased by early education or prejudice in our views and conclusions as to the application of those principles. The object of Correspondence between Grand Lodge and Grand Chapters as we understand it, is to dissolve minor differences and to promote general harmony and fraternity.

Pennsylvania has, for nearly two centuries, been fruitful soil for Freemasonry. Second in population in the United States, it maintains its second place in number of Royal Arch Masons. The Grand Chapter has fraternally declined all overtures to become a constituent of the General Grand Chapter, and in all probability will continue to do so, not from a disposition to be unneighborly, but because, *first*, we prefer to retain absolute sovereignty within the Jurisdiction, and *second*, in our system, the ceremony of "passing to the chair," called in other Jurisdictions conferring the Past Master's Degree belongs to the *blue* Lodges, and could not be transferred to the Chapters, without radical constitutional changes and re-adjustments which would necessitate the approval of both the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, a result not likely to be secured.

These extended remarks were scarcely called for in rejoinder to Comp. Bird, but, as he mentioned specifically our four Quarterly Communications, and the Annual Communication, in 1898, we fell into a reminiscent mood and then penned the preceding paragraphs.

Nevada reports eight working Chapters, May 1, 1899, with a membership of 308 Royal Arch Masons, a gain of ten over the preceding year. These numbers are not large but they

are probably up to the average of many other Jurisdictions in proportion to population. Our Companions of Nevada deserve to be congratulated upon the fact that their numbers have increased.

Among the standing resolutions of the Grand Chapter we find :

" 2. Esoteric.—That we hereby enter our solemn protest against the authorization of certain printed books, purporting to be keys of the Chapter Work, by certain of our sister Grand Chapters, believing, as we do, that the general circulation of such works is an evil full of danger to the best interests of the Royal Craft.

That the use of all such books in conferring Degrees, or in the examination of visitors, is strictly forbidden within this Jurisdiction.—1878, p. 135, Vol. I."

This is a sensible declaration and it would be well if other Grand Chapters would act in like manner.

" 13. Qualifications.—That an applicant for the Chapter Degrees shall be a Master Mason in good standing affiliated with some Lodge. He shall be whole and sound, not disfigured or dismembered.—1892, p. 17."

This is in consonance with the "Ancient Regulations," and is a direct rebuke to those Jurisdictions that allow artificial limbs to supply the place of dismemberments.

Among the decisions affirmed by the Grand Chapter is :

" 11. Removal.—An appointed officer cannot be removed, after he has been installed, during the period for which he has been appointed. It is the installation, and not the appointment, which makes him a Chapter Officer.—1879, p. 217."

In Pennsylvania the officers of the Grand and Subordinate Chapters, down to and including the Secretary, are *elected*. *They only* are installed. All other officers are appointed by the Grand High Priest or High Priest respectively. They are *not* installed and can, at any time, be removed by the appointing power. *Obedience*, one of the first lessons taught in Freemasonry, is thus assured.

Many other decisions reported would be considered good. Masonic law in Pennsylvania. The next Annual Grand Communication will be held at Virginia City, June 11, A. D. 1900.

Comp. A. O. Percy, Gold Hill, M. E. Grand High Priest; Comp. Chauncey N. Noteware, Carson City, R. E. Grand Secretary.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

In the city of St. John, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter met in its Eleventh Convocation on Wednesday, August 24, 1898.

Eight Chapters were represented. The opening paragraph of the address of Most Excellent Grand High Priest John V. Ellis, reads :

“Companions : With pleasure we greet each other at this, the Eleventh Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter. The years pass swiftly by ; they take something from the lives of all of us ; they add much that is delightful ; they promise more in the days to come. There is much of gratification and of satisfaction in good achievements, and there is unmistakable pleasure in our anticipation of work yet to be done. Probably none of us ever realize all that we hope to accomplish, but the thought that we may is a great encouragement.”

He paid appropriate tributes to the memory of several Companions of his own Jurisdiction who died during the preceding year, and mentioned the deaths of Officers and Past Officers of American Grand Chapters. He expressed regret that Capitular Masonry is of slow growth in New Brunswick.

The Grand Chapter was formed in 1887, and a question has arisen as to whether or not new Warrants should be issued to the Chapters that united to give the Grand Chapter existence. It appears, however, that in 1888 interim Warrants were issued to each Chapter, authorizing a continuance of the work, and that in 1892 the Warrants were sent to the Grand Secretary, proper authorization to continue the work was affixed to each, and they were returned to the several Chapters.

Mount Lebanon Chapter having united with the Grand Chapter, the latter body became sovereign in the Jurisdiction. We were not aware that this Chapter had remained out when the Grand Chapter was formed.

The Grand High Priest concluded his address as follows :

"Grand Chapter has done me the honor to elect me four successive years to the office which I now fill. The courtesy and brotherly kindness shown me by all who have assisted in the work I shall ever remember. I question very much whether it is advisable to continue any officer, except those whose duties are clerical, for a long period in office, for it represses the just ambition which properly inspires many active companions, and with this suggestion I return to you the trust that you have reposed in me.

The work which we have to do at this Convocation, Companions, is neither arduous or severe. Let us do it in a kindly spirit towards each other, and with a reverential feeling towards the Great I AM, who ever has us in His holy keeping."

The number of members in the eight Chapters, December 31, 1897, was 437. The gain over 1896 was thirty-six, but this includes twenty-six members added by the accession of Mount Lebanon Chapter. The income of the Grand Chapter is necessarily small, but it is creditable to say that the expenses are less, and that there remains a balance in the Treasury of \$201.96.

1899.

After the above had been written, we received the proceedings of the Twelfth Annual Convocation, held in the city of Saint John, August 23, 1899, M. E. Grand High Priest John V. Ellis, in the East. In the second paragraph of his annual address he said :

"Despite a declaration which I made in my address last year you were good enough to again elect me by a practically unanimous vote to the honorable position of head of this Grand Chapter. In accepting office for the sixth time I took occasion to say that I yielded to your kindness against my own judgment, but that I did so for the last time. To that I adhere. It is not in the interests of our association to continue any executive officer too long in one position. In my own case I feel that I have not made you

ample return for your consideration and regard. An absence of over five months from the province has considerably interfered with my plans, but what was unavoidable must be accepted by you as my excuse for unperformed duty.

However, the affairs of Royal Arch Masonry in New Brunswick have not suffered. The officers of Grand Chapter and the Executive Board have carried on the work effectively and the returns and statements to be submitted to you will show an increase in membership and in funds. The best of feeling prevails in our subordinate bodies, and our membership, though it is not large, is an excellent one, and we may well be proud of it. As I have more than once said we cannot hope to grow rapidly in numbers, but over that we need not mourn if we govern with prudence and are able to spread among our companions the spirit of harmony and the love of mankind, the cultivation of which is the principal object of the Masonic Institution."

He granted a dispensation (apparently authorized by the Constitution) enabling a Chapter to confer the degrees upon candidates residing within the jurisdiction of another Chapter when the latter had refused permission for that purpose. There may be extreme cases (and the M. E. Grand High Priest thought there were) in which the exercise of such powers becomes advantageous to the convenience of the applicants, but we seriously doubt the policy of Constitutional enactments authorizing any officer to dispense with the inherent right of Lodges or Chapters to pass upon the merits of petitioners for the degrees residing nearest those Lodges or Chapters, or within their territorial jurisdiction.

Note was made of the deaths of Grand and Past Officers of American Grand Chapters. Here is another version of the Ritual business that seems to be a matter of continual discussion by our sister Grand Chapters:

"I have given some thought during the year to the matter of the Ritual. Speaking personally while I am fully cognizant of the advantage of having our Ritual similar to that in general use on this continent, I may say that the existing Ritual does not appear to me in its symbolism or its teaching to be as interesting, as instructive, or as consistent as either the Rituals used in England or Scotland. Perhaps one's judgment in a matter of this kind

depends upon the point of view and upon the idea which may exist in the mind of the particular object for which the Ritual is used. Any companion who will compare the English and Scottish Rituals with that in use generally on this continent will be compelled to admit that in the matter of symbolic interest they are far superior, but after all it may be satisfactorily concluded that any well worked out Ritual now in use will fully suit all our needs."

The number of members was reported at 454, a gain of 17 over last year. Balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, and on deposit August 19th, \$333.87.

A resolution was adopted recognizing the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand and authorizing an exchange of representatives. Comp. John A. Watson, who had served a few years as R. E. Grand Secretary, was called higher by being elected M. E. Grand High Priest. An excellent picture, and doubtless a truthful likeness of him, embellishes the pamphlet for 1899.

This Jurisdiction does not appoint a Committee on Correspondence.

The next Annual Convocation will be held at the city of Saint John, August 29, 1900.

Comp. John A. Watson, M. E. Grand High Priest; Comp. William B. Wallace, R. E. Grand Secretary; both of Saint John.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Eightieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire was held in the City of Concord, May 16, 1899.

Charles H. Webster, M. E. Grand High Priest presided, and eight Past Grand Officers were present and eighteen of their twenty-five Subordinate Chapters were represented. Samuel Condon, Jr., Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, was among the list of Grand Representatives.

In his address the Grand High Priest said, "Peace and harmony have continued in our jurisdiction, and the Chapters have experienced healthy growth, as will be shown by the reports."

"The duties of the Grand High Priest have been light and largely of a routine character."

Among the deaths mentioned by the Grand High Priest was that of M. E. Comp. Edward Gustine, who served as Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts in the years 1872 and 1873.

The Grand High Priest had the following to say under the head of "Books of Marks":

"I suggest that the attention of the subordinate Chapters be directed by a resolution, or an amendment to the Regulations, to the importance of procuring books of marks, that the instructions given from time to time may be duly observed. Many of the Chapters have no such books; some have them, but their use has been very limited, while a few Chapters have made the rule that no candidate shall be exalted until his mark is filed with the Secretary.

I have labored with nearly every Chapter in the jurisdiction upon the subject, but without apparent results."

As the Secretary of a subordinate Chapter we have had some experience with the Book of Marks, and know what a trouble it is to see that the marks of the Companions are properly recorded.

From the report of the Grand Secretary we take the following extract:

Admitted to membership,	124
Restored to membership,	8
Dimitted,	20
Died,	73
Suspended,	13
Membership,	3594
Increase,	26

The Report on Correspondence comprises about one hundred pages and as usual is by Comp. Albert S. Wait. He reviews forty-nine Grand Jurisdictions and his report is as interesting and instructive as his reports always are.

Pennsylvania receives a nice review and he copies a couple of paragraphs of Comp. Henderson's remarks on Masonry not changing in Pennsylvania and says, "they are worthy the careful consideration of the Companions."

Comp. Wait's conclusion is as follows :

"Our work of the year is completed, and we submit it to the inspection of the Companions. It is a survey of the Capitular world so far as shown by the published transactions which have come to our hands, with the utterances of leading writers which the records contain. No controversy of moment has arisen to disturb the harmony of the Craft, and success and prosperity have marked the progress of the year. The peaceful conditions prevailing have enabled Masonic scholars and students to devote their intellectual energies to the study of the rise and development of our branch of the Masonic institution, with the principles of its organization and the philosophy upon which it rests. Its grandeur is thus becoming more clearly perceived, while the beneficence of its work is recommending it more and more to the approval of men as time goes on."

Charles H. Webster was re-elected Grand High Priest, and George P. Cleaves re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY.

The Forty-third Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of New Jersey was held in Trenton, May 10, 1899.

M. E. Comp. John B. Bertholf, Grand High Priest, presided and there were present fourteen Past Grand High Priests and Representatives of over thirty Chapters. M. E. Comp. Henry S. Haines, Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, was present as usual.

The Grand Representatives from other Grand Jurisdictions "were duly welcomed to the Grand East with the honors of

Royal Arch Masonry, Comp. I. Layton Register responding on their behalf." The Grand High Priest Comp. John W. Palmer of the Grand Chapter of New York accompanied by the Grand King and Past Grand High Priest Stivers visited the Grand Chapter.

In his address the Grand High Priest says :

"The year just passed has been an uneventful one in the history of the Grand Chapter, nothing having occurred to disturb the peace and harmony prevailing among the Craft. The duties of the Grand High Priest, though voluminous, have not been burdensome, and the performance of them has been, to me, a pleasurable duty."

The Grand High Priest made the following decisions :

"Action upon a request for a waiver of territorial jurisdiction is determined by an open majority vote of the Companions present at a regular convocation."

This used to be the law in Pennsylvania, but now it requires five black balls to establish a Masonic objection. It is not called "waiver of territorial jurisdiction" in Pennsylvania.

"In the event of but one black ball or cube appearing in the first ballot for a candidate for advancement and exaltation or for affiliation the High Priest, before any announcement is made, may at once order another ballot."

In Pennsylvania the High Priest can order a test ballot without any regard to the number of black balls that were in the box if he believes an error or a mistake has been made and no member has left the Chapter hall.

"A by-law exempting Past High Priests from the payment of dues is, in my opinion, entirely within the province of the Chapter, but in view of the ruling made in 1894 relative to granting such exemptions after having paid dues for a specified term of years, as set forth in Decision 67 of the Digest, it would probably not be expedient."

We do not believe that such a by-law is expedient. It is better that everybody should pay dues unless it is in the case

of a poor Companion who is not able, then the Chapter should remit his dues.

A resolution was adopted as follows:

“Resolved, That an unaffiliated Royal Arch Mason of more than six months’ standing cannot be admitted to visit a Chapter in this jurisdiction.”

The proceedings are mainly of local interest and are not very interesting to Capitular Masons outside of New Jersey.

The report of the Committee of Correspondence is written by E. Comp. George B. Edwards as usual and consists of one hundred and seventeen pages in which he reviews forty-six Grand Jurisdictions. Pennsylvania is reviewed for the years 1897 and 1898. Of the report of the Committee of Correspondence of Pennsylvania he says:

“The report on Correspondence is the labor of all the five members of the Committee, the proceedings of the various jurisdictions having been allotted some to each individual, which, when assembled as a whole, every part thereof fitted with the exactness ascribed to the first Temple structure.

The Correspondence report is again of complex authorship and graceful proportions in the unity of design.”

In regard to what Comp. Henderson said in regard to the liquor question Comp. Edwards copies and then quoting the last four words says: *“‘Better let it alone’ is just a block of solid wisdom.”*

He has the following to say in regard to Comp. Jacobs’ address:

“The address of the incoming Grand High Priest, Companion Michael William Jacobs, established the continuance of the preservative and conservative policy that has ever been the striking characteristic of the Masonic fraternity of Pennsylvania.”

Comp. Edwards’ report is good and any one reading it knows that he put in a very great deal of time.

Comp. Levi G. Bliss was elected Grand High Priest and Comp. George B. Edwards re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK.

The One Hundred and Second Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New York was held in the City of Albany, Tuesday, February 7, 1899.

M. E. John Webb, Jr., Grand High Priest, presided, all but one of his Grand Officers were present, a dozen Post Grand High Priests and Representatives of 187 of the 188 Subordinate Chapters. Comp. Elmer A. Miller, of New York, Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, was not recorded as being present.

After the introduction of the address of the Grand High Priest, he makes mention of those of their own Grand Chapter who have died during the year, as well as those of other jurisdictions.

The Grand High Priest reported the constitution of a new Chapter at Catskill, and that he had made thirty official visits to Subordinate Chapters. He says the visits were a source of great pleasure. He adds:

“The large numbers who met me everywhere, the interest manifested in the proceedings, the good fellowship that prevailed, and the excellent work done, leads me unhesitatingly to say that Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction was never more effective than at this time. The attendance in the Metropolitan district was unprecedented. The resident Grand Officers gave me unselfish and loyal support. All the elective and appointed officers, together with the representatives of sister Grand Jurisdictions near this Grand Chapter, were present on every occasion. But especially gratifying was the honor paid me by Past Grand Officers, who, without exception, attended the Chapters visited. No less gratifying was my reception throughout the State. It will always be a pleasing remembrance.”

The Grand High Priest only made four decisions during the year. One was in answer to the question, “Can a person who has received the Royal Arch Degree in Ireland be affiliated by a Chapter in this State?” He decides that the Mark Degree is not compulsory before receiving the Royal Arch Degree

under the Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland, and as the degrees of Past Master and Most Excellent Master are unknown to them, he must receive such of the Royal Arch series as he has not already received, before he can be affiliated.

The Grand Chapter of New York gives Subordinate Chapters perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates, and the Grand High Priest suggested the question as to whether it would not be wise to modify this provision and limit the jurisdiction of the Chapters to some definite time. He says as follows :

“My own, and the experience of every Companion present, is that candidates are often rejected from other cause than unfitness, and that desirable material sometimes fails to obtain admission because of personal pique, or reasons yet more indefensible. Some of the best men in our communities have been rejected to requite some fancied slight, or because some friend has failed to gain admission, and such desirable persons are lost to the Order because of the perpetual jurisdiction of the Chapter rejecting them.”

In this, the suggestion of the Grand High Priest is a good one, and in our State, six months after a Brother has been rejected in the Chapter he can make application in any Chapter in the State. The question as to whether there is any Masonic objection then comes up in the Chapter in which he was first rejected, and it required five black balls to establish such objection.

The Grand High Priest pays the following compliment to Grand Secretary Fox :

“Of R. E. Christopher G Fox, Grand Seeretary, I shall say nothing. He knows all I feel towards him. I could not add to his worth. My predecessors in office have realized what a pillar of strength he has been to them. You, Companions, know that as a Grand Secretary he has few equals, and my earnest hope is that so long as I may be permitted to attend the annual sessions of this Grand Body one of the first faces to greet me may be his.”

From the report of the Grand Secretary we take the following:

Exalted during the year,	1,200
Affiliated and restored,	280
Dimitted,	245
Suspended,	608
Expelled,	2
Died,	272
Net increase,	353
Total membership,	20,560

A charter was granted for Granville Chapter, which was working under dispensation issued by the authority of the Grand High Priest in 1897.

The Grand Chaplain, R. E. and Rev. Byron Murray delivered an address, taking for his subject "A Second Century of the Grand Chapter of New York." A resolution thanking the Grand Chaplain for his address was passed, and the address was printed in the proceedings.

M. E. John Webb was re-elected Grand High Priest; and, on being informed of his election, said: "That he could not adequately express his sense of the great honor conferred upon him by his Companions, in thus electing him, for the third term, to the highest office within their gift; for nine years he had been continued a member of the Council of Grand Officers by their kind partiality, and for two years intrusted with the office of Grand High Priest; hence this renewed expression of their confidence touched his feeling deeply; and though there might be conditions which would justify a third term, such conditions did not now exist; and, therefore, while sincerely thanking the Grand Chapter for this marked expression of its favor, he respectfully declined a re-election."

The Royal Arch Degree was exemplified on the evening of Tuesday, the Grand Lecturer, Comp. George McGown, acting

as High Priest. A resolution was adopted, thanking the Grand Lecturer and the Companions who assisted him, for their work.

The Grand Chapters of New South Wales and Victoria, in Australia, were recognized.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence is by Comp. George J. Gardner, Chairman of the Committee, and comprises about one hundred and fifteen pages.

Pennsylvania receives a fraternal review, and Comp. Gardner says, "the proceedings of this Body come to us in white and scarlet, and an interior of fine typographical appearance—clean, distinct, easily read matter and fine steel engraved portrait of the Grand High Priest, and well executed views of the Masonic Home and the office of the Grand High Priest."

The proceedings of the Grand Chapter of New York are fully up to the standard of those of Pennsylvania in typographical effect, and Comp. Gardner said, "Credit is due to the exquisite taste and long experience of our accomplished Grand Secretary."

Comp. Gardner reviews fifty Grand Bodies, and the report is as interesting as his reports always are, and we wish we had more time and space to devote to it; but we will copy part of his conclusion and end our report:

"In pursuing our labors, we have endeavored to confine ourselves within the limits of the proscriptive resolution adopted by you. We may have exceeded those limits—certainly not intentionally, but ignorantly, for it is difficult to anticipate printed matter by manuscript, as to space to be occupied. In doing so, we have been obliged to 'heave over' much valuable and instructive reading, well worth transcribing and preserving. Many gems of eloquence 'have been born to blush unseen,' except by those in the immediate location of their birthplace. Many a tender word of sympathy has been uttered, and many a sprig of acacia has been dropped in the graves of the honored and renowned who have 'gone before,' but our voice has been silenced from uttering eulogistic words in praise of the faithful and true who have been active workers in the quarries through a long and devoted life.

One peculiar feature presents itself forcibly to us in studying the proceedings of sister bodies—that of a general relief of Grand High Priests in rendering decisions. Nearly every executive has been able to say, ‘I have not been called upon to decide questions but what are readily answered by reference to the statutory authorities and decisions of my predecessors.’ This indicates a growing intelligence on the part of the Craft, gained by a study of the authorities in their possession or easily accessible.

Patriotism, induced by a war with a foreign power, is a marked feature of the addresses of many of the Grand High Priests—an argument that should satisfy our opponents that love of country is one of the paramount features of our body.”

R. E. John W. Palmer, of Brooklyn, was elected Grand High Priest, and R. E. Christopher G. Fox was re-elected Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of North Carolina met in Asheville, June 13 and 14, 1899. Comp. M. S. Willard, Grand High Priest was in the chair, two Grand High Priests were present and a dozen Subordinate Chapters were represented. Comp. H. C. Atkinson the representative of Pennsylvania was absent.

The Grand High Priest, in beginning his address, said that a year before he hoped he would be able at this time to report the record of a prosperous year. He said he had done the best he could, and that he was sadly disappointed in the results.

There is no report on fraternal correspondence this year, the Grand High Priest having advised Comp. James Southgate that the report should be omitted on account of the financial condition of the Grand Chapter.

The Grand High Priest treats at length the condition of the Grand Chapter and Subordinate Chapters and their financial standing. They seem to have a very loose way of managing the affairs of their Grand Chapter for he says :

"It does not seem to have been the custom with either the Grand Treasurer or the Grand Secretary to keep any account with subordinate Chapters. There should certainly be some accurate way of determining what is due the Grand Chapter from subordinate Chapters, or from any other source, just as a Lodge or Chapter is able to tell at a glance to what extent any one of its members is delinquent. This is done in other Grand Jurisdictions and the statement seems to be read just as a balance sheet is read at meetings of subordinate Chapters."

The Grand High Priest said he would not bring in any bill for expenses on account of any of the visits he has made, but in lieu thereof, he requested that at least the sum of \$75.00 be credited to a note given by a young lady to the Grand Chapter for a loan to enable her to complete her education at Greensboro Normal College.

The Grand High Priest stated that he had received a memorial from the Grand Chapter of New Zealand, asking official recognition and the interchange of representatives. On account of the recognition probably placing them in the attitude of opposing the prerogatives of the Grand Chapters of England, Scotland and Ireland, as well as the fact that the Grand Chapter of New Zealand not having the allegiance of all the bodies in its territory, he recommended that no official action be taken until additional information was obtained. The Committee on the Grand High Priest's address endorsed his recommendation and their report was adopted by the Grand Chapter.

From the abstract of the returns of the Subordinate Chapters we take the following:

Number of members 1898,	717
Exalted,	57
Admitted and re-instated,	67
Dimitted,	15
Suspended,	6
Expelled,	1
Died,	10
Number of members 1899,	749

The charters of fourteen Subordinate Chapters were forfeited and the Grand Secretary directed to endeavor to secure from said Chapters the return of forfeited charters and any property belonging to them. Seven other Chapters were notified that if they did not pay specified amounts in sixty days their charters would also be forfeited.

A resolution of thanks to the Companions of Asheville Chapters for "abundant courtesies rendered" was adopted.

The election for Grand Officers resulted in the election of William F. Randolph of Asheville, Grand High Priest, and the re-election of Horace H. Munson of Wilmington as Grand Secretary.

NORTH DAKOTA.

The Tenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of North Dakota was held at Fargo, June 22, 1899. Comp. George H. Phelps, M. E. Grand High Priest, presided, and all but three of his Grand Officers were present. Four Grand High Priests were present and thirteen Subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered his address and he had but very few official acts to report.

He gives a long list of Capitular Masons of various States who died during the past year, together with the announcement of three deaths in their own Chapters. One was Governor Frank A. Briggs, a Past Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge and Grand Commandery of North Dakota. Another was Roswell W. Knowlten, a Past Grand Scribe of the Grand Chapter and a Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery. The third was Thomas J. Wilder, a Past Grand Secretary of their Grand Chapter.

He paid the following high tribute to Comp. Frank J. Thompson, the Grand Secretary :

“I thought I would deviate a little from the custom of my predecessors and say nothing about the helpfulness of Grand Secretary Thompson. But I can't do it. He is such a storehouse of Masonic knowledge, so ready, pleasant and obliging that I hope many future successors to my position may have him to make for them, as he has for me, the yoke easy and the burden light.”

The balance of funds of the Grand Chapter is \$1,020.08.

The total membership is 926, a net gain of 52 for the past year.

Before the Grand Chapter closed they passed a resolution thanking the Masonic bodies of Fargo for the kindness and courtesies received at their hands.

There is no report on correspondence.

Comp. George L. McGregor of Ft. Totten was elected Grand High Priest, and Comp. Frank J. Thompson was re-elected Grand Secretary.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The Twenty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Nova Scotia was held at Lunenburg, on Tuesday, June 7, 1898.

M. E. Comp. Donald Darrach, Grand High Priest presided and a dozen Subordinate Chapters were represented.

After the routine business following the opening, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest delivered his address. He began as follows:

“Another year has rolled away into the past. It seems but as yesterday since we met and looked into each other's faces, parting with one another with renewed hope, rekindled zeal and strengthened purposes. Now as we again surround our altar let us with grateful hearts render homage and adoration to the great *I am*, to whom time or change is not applicable, by whose gracious Providence we are permitted to assemble in this the Twenty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Nova Scotia.”

He congratulates the members on the prosperous condition of the Order throughout their Jurisdiction and says that the Royal Craft has never been held in higher estimation at home or abroad. He adds :

“Much interest is taken in the impressive ceremonies. Companions and Chapters are emulating who can best work and best agree ; better business methods are applied to the management of the financial affairs of the Chapter, and though there is room for greater improvement in some cases, yet perfection in ritual, accuracy in record and promptness in business transactions, in the general aim, and the glorious principles of the Institution are more clearly elucidated year by year.”

Among the dispensations granted by the Grand High Priest were a couple for Chapters to walk in procession and wear Royal Arch regalia on the occasion of the Queen's Jubilee, and another Chapter to wear Royal Arch regalia at an “At Home.”

The Grand High Priest referred to the death of the wife of one of the members of the Grand Chapter and recommended the appointment of a Committee to take suitable action. The Board of General Purposes approved and a Committee was appointed “to prepare and present a letter of condolence to our worthy distressed Companion expressive of our heart-felt sympathy.”

From the Grand High Priest's address we find he had quite a busy year and performed the duties of his office to the entire satisfaction of the Companions.

At the last meeting of the Grand Chapter the subject of regalia for the Grand Chapter and Subordinate Chapters was referred to the Board of General Purposes. At this meeting the kind of regalia to be worn was reported by the Board and adopted by the Grand Chapter. The Board also said they would like to have an expression of opinion by the Grand Chapter as to the desirability of resuming the report on foreign correspondence. The Grand Secretary in his report spoke

favorably of the report on foreign correspondence and suggested that some of the Companions volunteer to do the work. As there is no report on foreign correspondence printed, we do not suppose that anything was done in the matter.

From the Grand Secretary's report we take the following:

Exaltations	44
Affiliations	5
Reinstated	5
Suspended	4
Dimitted	21
Missing	6
Died	9
Present membership	740
Gain	12

The proceedings contain much statistical matter which is of great interest to the Companions of Nova Scotia and there is also an Appendix containing the Constitution and By-laws of the Grand Chapter and the By-laws of Subordinate Chapters together with a number of forms.

M. E. Comp. Thomas Trenaman was elected Grand High Priest and M. E. Comp. D. H. Campbell was re-elected Grand Secretary.

NOVA SCOTIA. (2)

The Thirtieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia (with jurisdiction over the provinces of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland), was held at Annapolis, June 13, 1899.

Most Excellent Comp. Thomas Trenaman, Grand High Priest, presided and nine Chapters were represented. Representatives were present from eighteen Grand Chapters, but we do not find the name of Comp. F. Dakin, the Grand Representative from Pennsylvania among the list of those present.

The Grand High Priest in his annual address says :

“The year that has just passed has been one of peace and a reasonable prosperity to our order. It may be that Subordinate Chapters have not increased their membership, but I do not regard that fact as indicating a tendency to weakness, knowing as I do. that indifference or apathy has not been the cause. Our strength lies not in numbers alone. Let fidelity to the trust reposed in him, and the best and most unselfish endeavor to discharge the duty entrusted to him, characterize each companion, and the continued prosperity of our beloved craft will be always assured.

Our relations with all corresponding bodies are of the most satisfactory character, as will appear more fully from the report of your committee on Foreign Correspondence, to which your attention is respectfully invited.”

There is nothing in the address of the Grand High Priest of special interest to the Companions outside of their own Jurisdiction.

From the report of the Grand Secretary we find that twenty-eight Companions were exalted during the year, three were affiliated and two reinstated, twenty-three dimitted, twelve were suspended, eleven were reported missing and thirteen died. Their present membership is seven hundred and fifteen.

For the first time in many years they have a Report on Foreign Correspondence which we find very interesting. The work is the joint labors of a committee the same as we do in Pennsylvania.

Under Pennsylvania the Committee says :

“ We note with pleasure the presence of Comp. Samuel S. Yoke, Representative of Nova Scotia at each of the four Quarterly Convocations.”

They have the Companion's name spelled the same way in the list of Grand Representatives. You have made an error, Companions, for his name is Yohe and not Yoke.

They pay our Grand High Priest the following compliment :

“The address of M. E. Grand High Priest Jacobs which followed, is so full of sound Masonic advice that we would fain copy it entire for the benefit of our own Jurisdiction would space permit. It is a document that could be read with much profit by every member of the Craft.”

M. E. Comp. George M. Doull was elected Grand High Priest and M. E. Comp. D. H. Campbell was re-elected Grand Secretary.

OREGON.

The Thirty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Oregon was held June 12 and 13, 1899, in the city of Portland.

The Grand Chapter of Oregon sustained a serious loss in the death of Comp. Henry S. Strange, Grand High Priest, who died March 7, 1899, in the thirty-seventh year of his age. Comp. Strange was elected Grand Captain of the Host in 1894, and served in all the subordinate chairs, being elected Grand High Priest in 1898. His funeral was conducted by Multnomah Lodge, No. 1, A. F. and A. M. of Oregon City, and was largely attended by prominent Masons from different parts of the State.

On account of the death of Comp. Strange, Comp. W. T. Wright, Deputy Grand High Priest, acting Grand High Priest, called the Grand Chapter to order.

All but two of the Grand Officers were present, five Past Grand High Priests and four Past Grand Captains of the Host. Most Excellent Comp. J. R. Bayley, the representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, near the Grand Chapter of Oregon, was not present.

The acting Grand High Priest in opening his address, says :

“Under the mysterious and unexplained dispensation of Providence, I am called upon to welcome you upon this occasion. As we cannot understand

these things, yet we recognize the hand of the all-wise Father, and bow in meek submission to his will. In His own good time all will be explained, and we shall then know the reason of this remarkable dispensation.”

He then pays a high tribute to the memory of Comp. Strange, and says: “He was an exceptionally bright and zealous Mason, a most diligent and devoted member of the Royal Arch, and a consistent, earnest Christian gentleman.”

He notices the death of Past Grand High Priest, Comp-George M. Stroud, as well as a number of members of Subordinate Chapters and prominent Capitular Masons of other jurisdictions.

The report of the Treasury showed a balance on hand of \$1,871.42.

From the Grand Secretary’s report we take the following:

Number of Chapters,	26
Number of members in good standing,	1,312
Exalted during the year,	78
Admitted and reinstated,	14
Stricken from the roll,	31
Suspended,	1
Dimitted,	19
Died,	23
Net gain during the year,	18

From the approved decision of their Grand Chapter we take the following. We do not do it for the purpose of criticism, but merely to show our own Companions the difference between the law of other jurisdictions and our own :

“It is not necessary to serve as King or Scribe to be eligible to the office of High Priest.

It is proper to open direct on the degree in which work is to be done.”

We noted earlier in this report that our representative, Comp. James R. Bayley, was not present. We print the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted by the

Grand Chapter, and join with the Companions in their feelings of regret :

“ Resolved, That it is with feelings of the deepest regret we note the absence of Past Grand High Priest James R. Bayley, who, for some months past, has been lying at death’s door. Ripe in years and honors, he patiently awaits the ‘ final summons.’ His faithful helpmeet and companion has preceded him by a brief time only, having died a few weeks since. Comp. Bayley may be justly entitled the patriarch of Oregon Masonry, having been closely identified with the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter officially in our councils for more than forty years. His name first appears upon the official roster as Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge in 1861. He served this Grand Chapter as Grand High Priest nine years, first in 1863, and from 1869 to 1875, inclusive. The burdens and infirmities of many years have prevented his attendance upon the Grand Chapter the past two sessions, but his Companions have held him in loving remembrance, and I recommend that the fraternal sympathy and aid, if needed, of the Grand Chapter be communicated and extended to our afflicted Companion.”

The Committee on Correspondence presented a resolution recognizing the newly organized Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand, which was adopted. Our Correspondence Committee declined to recognize the Supreme Grand Chapter of New Zealand, thinking that they did not have enough information to enable us to act intelligently.

The Grand Chapter passed a very sensible standing resolution in regard to non-affiliates, part of which says it is deemed “ obligatory upon every Royal Arch Mason to be a member of some Chapter, and unmasonic for any unaffiliated Royal Arch Mason to reside in the jurisdiction of a Subordinate Chapter without becoming a member thereof, or contributing regularly an amount equal to its customary dues.”

The Report on Correspondence comprises about ninety pages, and, as usual, is by Comp. J. N. Hodson, Chairman of the Committee. He says :

“ We beg to present you the results of our labors in the quarries, hoping the specimens brought up for inspection will prove interesting and valuable.

While the secrets of the sacred vault are by no means exhausted, neither are many of them new to the craft; yet the news from the Capitular world will, we trust, be of sufficient importance to justify careful perusal."

Pennsylvania receives a kind and fraternal notice, and he says the book of proceedings "is an elegant specimen of typographical art, such as is a pleasure to examine and worthy of preservation." He says the fact that only eleven Past Grand High Priests are still living, and says: "We mention this especially because Pennsylvania is the only Grand Chapter, at least among the older ones, that never re-elected a Grand High Priest."

Why, Comp. Hodson, you are certainly mistaken in regard to this matter. Thirty-six of our Grand High Priests were re-elected, and some of them we re-elected several times.

He has the following to say in regard to the Report on Correspondence:

"As usual, the report on correspondence is gotten up on the co-operative plan, five of the best-skilled architects of the jurisdiction pro rating the labor and producing the result, apparently 'five souls with but a single thought, five hearts that beat as one,' as we could not discover a single instance in which they crossed each other's trails."

He prints what Comp. Africa said, referring to the question, Which is the oldest Chapter in America? saying, "The first Royal Arch Chapter of America of which we possess a particular account is that held in Pennsylvania, anterior to the year 1758, as follows:"

"It will probably never be positively determined as to the exact date of the first conferring of the Royal Arch Degree in America; but, so far as discovered, December 22, 1753, in the records of Fredericksburg Lodge, Virginia, is the first authentic account of it being conferred anywhere; but it must have come from some other source in this country, as there is no indication of the brethren doing the work being foreigners. The trouble is, either the earliest records were not properly made or they have been lost."

Of course, Comp. Hodson's report is a good one, and it is very interesting all the way through, and we are sorry we cannot devote more space to it.

Comp. W. Y. Wright was elected Grand High Priest, and Comp. J. F. Robinson re-elected Grand Secretary.

QUEBEC.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Quebec assembled in their Twenty-second Annual Grand Convocation in Montreal, January 24, 1899.

The Grand Chapter was called to order by M. E. Comp. B. Tooke, Grand First Prin. Z., with all of his Grand Officers present but three. Eight Grand Past Z's were present, fourteen other Past Grand Officers, twenty-six Grand Representatives and Representatives from ten Subordinate Chapters. We fail to find the name of Comp. A. A. Stevenson, Grand Representative from Pennsylvania among the list of Grand Representatives present.

In opening his address Comp. Tooke acknowledged their gratitude and dependence upon the great "I Am" for his care and watchfulness over them and for being permitted to assemble once more in annual convocation. He referred to the peace and happiness and general contentment of the country they live in and said "as an important part of the British Empire we rejoice over the grand victory obtained by Illustrious Brother Lord Kitchener and his gallant Companions at Khartoum."

He spoke of the Spanish War as follows:

"To our Companions residing in the great Republic south of us we offer our sincere sympathy, as well as our congratulations. Many who have passed the portals of the Chapter have realized the horrors of the war, a condition of affairs that must appeal to every heart, to every soul, and

to every mind. To the relatives of companions bereaved through the loss of dear ones, as well as to those who from any cause are suffering by the same calamity, we extend our sympathy; and to the Nation who has taken so prominent a position in assisting the spread of Christianity and civilization throughout the world, we offer our congratulations in connection with the recent victorious result achieved."

The Grand Principal Z. made a good address and it contained much that is interesting.

From the report of the Grand Scribe E. we take the following :

Number of members 1898,	527
Received,	34
Affiliated,	4
Withdrawn,	8
Suspended,	15
Died,	6
Number of members 1899,	536
Gain,	9

The Grand Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$444.35, and they have a benevolent fund which amounts to \$935.85.

The Committee on the Grand Z.'s address in referring to what the Grand Z. said in relation to the United States,

"We also join with him in sympathy and congratulations to our Companions of the Great Republic to the south of us for their loss as well as for the great victory obtained by them in the great war, and sincerely trust that it will result in great good to mankind and to the interest of our Royal Craft."

The Report of the Committe on Correspondence is by Comp. E. T. D. Chambers, P. G. Z., and comprises sixty-five pages in which he reviews fifty Grand Chapters.

Pennsylvania receives a little over a page in his report and he says the chairman of our Committee, M. E. Comp. Matthias H. Henderson, "reminds us very much by his style, of that

of their late lamented Richard Vaux, in his lifetime, both the Prince and Rupert of the reportorial guild of Masonry."

He says it is with deep regret that he learns of the decease of Comp. Clark who was formerly a member of this Committee.

In regard to Quebec Chapters appearing on the street in regalia he says: "We may say that Québec Chapters do not appear on the street in regalia as the word is sometimes understood, but when members of Chapters attending Divine service as such, for instance are granted a dispensation to do so, they can wear their aprons and sashes."

This is more than Comp. Chambers would see in Pennsylvania, for Chapters here never have occasion to appear on the street for any purpose.

R. E. Comp. H. LeRoy Fuller, of Sweetsburg, was elected Grand Z. and Comp. Will H. Whyte, of Montreal, was re-elected Grand Scribe E.

RHODE ISLAND.

The One Hundred and First Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Rhode Island was held in Providence, March 14, 1889.

M. E. Arthur H. Armington, Grand High Priest presided, six Past Grand High Priests were present and eight Chapters were represented. Of course M. E. Albert L. Anthony Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania was among the Grand Representatives who were present.

The Grand High Priest in delivering his annual address began it by speaking of the war of the year before and of it making history of the progress of the human race, and then pays a tribute to the dead of their Grand Chapter.

The Grand High Priest reports having visited every Chapter in the State and some of them more than once. He says he found among the principal officers an earnest determination to render the Ritual in a proper manner and to promote the welfare of their Chapters.

He gives the dispensations he granted and two decisions, appointments of Grand Representatives and makes a recommendation as follows:

“Some questions regarding the territorial jurisdiction of the Subordinate Chapters have arisen, which have been satisfactorily settled so far as they related to the particular cases considered. It has occurred to me, however, that it may be advisable to cause a map to be prepared which shall indicate the jurisdictional lines, to that each Chapter may, if it desires, have a copy thereof, by means of which all such questions may be readily decided. I recommend that a committee be appointed to prepare such a map, to be presented to Grand Chapter for adoption.”

A committee was afterward appointed for this purpose.

The assets of the Grand Chapter according to the report of the Grand Treasurer are \$5,255.32.

From the Grand Secretary's report we take the following:

Exalted,	149
Admitted,	5
Died,	47
Dimitted,	3
Dropped,	108
Present membership,	2,597

It was moved unanimously that until otherwise ordered the annual per capita tax shall be fifteen cents and the tax on exaltations \$3.00.

The report on Foreign Correspondence comprises about twenty-five pages and is by Comp. Henry W. Rugg. In his opening he has the following to say:

"To our Brethren in other jurisdictions we would proffer a cordial salutation. We may not know each other by reason of a personal presentation, or by having met in one and the same Masonic assembly; we may not have walked and wrought a close companionship, but we may well rejoice that we belong to an organization which has power to quicken the fraternal feeling in the hearts of all its members wherever they may dwell on the face of the earth. We are Masons, and therefore Brethren."

He compliments the action of Indiana in appropriating \$500 to the Masonic Orphans' Home of that Jurisdiction and also the giving of \$100 to the widow of one of its Past Grand High Priests. He says, "The time was when Brethren said, let the Lodge do whatever is needed in building Masonic Homes and answering calls for charity." He approves of Commanderies and Chapters being liberal with their charities also. In Pennsylvania all our Grand Bodies make donations to our Masonic Home.

He quotes what Comp. Henderson wrote in regard to the man who sells liquor being allowed to be made a Mason. Replying to it he says:

"This sort of reasoning, while very ingenious, does not meet the case; at least, is not altogether convincing. Surely we may strive to repress evils and to reform abuses, albeit we cannot accomplish all that is desired in these directions. Then, as it appears to us, there is a distinction with a difference between the two classes, at least in their probable influence in a Masonic body."

Comp. Rugg's report is a very interesting one.

M. E. Arthur H. Armington was elected Grand High Priest and R. E. William R. Greene was re-elected Grand Secretary.

SOUTH CAROLINA. . 1899.

The Palmetto State was assigned to the writer for 1897 and 1898, but no proceedings were received. A well-printed, tasteful book brings us again in touch, after the lapse of two years.

Comp. Frank Wilhite, M. E. Grand High Priest, presided at the Eighty-eighth Annual Grand Convocation, at Charleston, February 14, 1899.

Thirteen Chapters (out of nineteen) represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest gives pleasing indications of an awakening and progress among the Royal Craftsmen. Two Chapters received his dispensation to resume work, and three others are reported as promising revival. His own personal efforts were not wanting, as he visited a number of Chapters, with gratifying results. One decision is reported, upon the question,

“At what point, when conferring the Royal Arch Degree upon four or more candidates, the separation should occur?”

His answer was in substance, that it was unlawful for more than three candidates “to take part in any of the ceremonies,” in conferring that degree; in which the Committee on Jurisprudence concurred. His report is well presented and of interest, because it shows the careful efforts of a faithful officer.

The report of the Grand Secretary discloses that he, too, has given conscientious care to his office, and the tabular statement indicates a gain of nine members. The financial condition is good, with a cash balance of \$767.85.

The report on Correspondence is presented by Comp. J. T. Barron, the Grand Secretary, who occupies about sixty-six pages. He states that he has “been seriously handicapped in this work,” which possesses interest only from the fact that the report is a very good one. It is crisp, good-natured and fraternal, and very ably reviews the proceedings of the numerous Grand Chapters.

In his presentation of matters of interest, he is willing to commend, but finds little time for adverse criticism or unfavorable comment. He "keeps tabs" on the Companions who bear commissions as Representatives of his Grand Chapter, noting in each case their presence or absence at the meetings of their respective Grand Chapters. Perhaps this may bring some to a "realizing sense of their short-comings;" but in our view of the matter, it is not of great importance.

Pennsylvania receives fair notice, with praise to our Grand High Priest for numerous official visits. Referring to the several oft discussed but never settled questions, which occupy so much space in Correspondence Reports, he says:

"In our opinion, it is wise to continue to discuss these questions, for the reason that the readers of these Reports change from year to year, if the writers do not, and these discussions are interesting, and often give zest to the new workers in the quarries."

Comp. Barron's portrait adds interest to these pages, and after "looking him over," we are not surprised at his statement, that,

"Seldom does a month pass, that we are not complimented with an invitation to go from home to confer the Royal Arch Degree; while we never tire of trying to enthuse others with our love for its historic and symbolic teachings."

Six hundred and fifty-four members.

Comp. F. T. Wilhite, Anderson, Grand High Priest; Comp. J. T. Barron, Columbia, Grand Secretary.

SOUTH DAKOTA, 1899.

Tenth Annual Convocation was held June 15, 1899, at Yankton, Comp. George A. West, M. E. Grand High Priest, presiding. All the Grand Officers present, and 22 Chapters

represented. The address of the Grand High Priest presents a review of the past, with due tribute to the memory of the dead. He visited a number of Chapters and reports the condition of each,—he reports one decision,—that a “Brother has one year from the date of his election, in which to take his degrees.”

Referring to the Grand Secretary’s report, he remarks :

“It shows a total membership of 1,368, a decrease of ten for the year. One might believe that this slight falling off of membership is an indication of lethargy, but when he looks into the reasons for the apparent loss, he will find it is owing to the cleaning up of the records. We are really in a prosperous condition, and are benefitted by the prosperous condition of affairs in general.”

The veteran Comp. Parvin, Past Grand High Priest, of Iowa, was received with honor, and “gave a very interesting twenty-minute talk.”

The Committee on Jurisprudence endorsed the government by the Grand High Priest in terms most complimentary, and the Committee on Finance found a balance of \$1,155.58 on the right side.

The Committee on Ritual recommended the expenditure of some money to secure uniformity of work.

“Many of the Chapters using the adopted work, and some using the General Grand Chapter work, while others use a mixture.”

So the sum of \$150.00 was appropriated for that purpose.

The sessions began at 9 A. M. and were concluded 5.15 P. M., the business being apparently transacted with care.

Comp. Levoy presents the correspondence, having fortunately been persuaded to recall or suspend his valedictory

of last year. He asks indulgence because of business cares, because he has been Grand Master and because he has been married. We are tempted to ask which he liked best, and which took the most of his time, but perhaps had better not, for it is evident that all together have not prevented a good report. His summary of each Grand Chapter is brief and to the point. He insists upon paramount duty to Lodge "dependent membership" and no dispensations to "railroad candidates," all those opinions being on solid ground. Pennsylvania has good notice in thirty-three lines, and he says of our report :

"For five different pens, it reads well and makes a complete resume of the work of the jurisdiction reviewed."

Our Companion insists, like many others, in regarding our Annual Communications December 27th, in each year, as the standard from which to estimate attendance and interest. The December Quarterly is the proper test, as our Grand Officers are then elected, and all propositions of finance settled in which our Chapters have an interest. For example, Comp. Levoy states 31 Chapters represented for 1898, but in fact, December 8th, 102 Chapters were on hand.

The report is, as heretofore, accompanied by symbolic cuts or vignettes, and to Pennsylvania is assigned a canal boat, and no Masonic emblem. Well, we do have some boats left, but we have more locomotives, and manufacture them for the world as well. And we have some Masonry here as well.

We hope to meet our Comp. Levoy sometime, and have a good talk with him, not that he needs it, but for our own benefit.

Comp. Benj. F. Ives, St. Lawrence, Grand High Priest;
Comp. George A. Pettigrew, Flandreau, Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE, 1899.

The printed proceedings of the "Seventeenth Annual Convocation" are preceded by a portrait of Comp. Caswell A. Goodloe, who presides as M. E. Grand High Priest, at Nashville, January 23, 1899. Eleven Past Grand High Priests were in attendance.

The address of the Grand High Priest is brief, reciting few official acts and few visits; his good intentions in that respect being limited by prevalence of yellow fever and consequent quarantine. Of Chattanooga, he leaves a favorable impression.

"I left the city fully impressed with the idea that Masonry had found a lodgment in good heads and hearts, and I was constrained to believe that the natural scenery surrounding that historic city was well calculated to promote our cause or any other good and laudable undertaking."

Three Dispensations reported: two to institute new Chapters, and one to confer the four degrees of the Chapter at one Communication. Of the latter, he says,

"This of course was unnecessary for the plain reason that Chapters have such a right and need no dispensation."

The Committee on Jurisprudence found little to do, but expressed an opinion worth repeating.

"And yet we would discourage the conferring of four Capitular degrees at one and the same meeting, well assured that no mind is able to grasp and fully appreciate the beautiful teachings when hurriedly communicated, as of necessity they will be when crowded into one night."

The Committee on Accounts found a balance in hands of Grand Treasurer of \$2,351.25, thereby relieving the Committee on Ways and Means from all anxiety.

There are apparently sixty-eight Chapters on the list, the highest number being 153.

The "Uniform Code of By-Laws" for Subordinate Chapters as recommended by the Grand Chapter, is a model of brevity, occupying thirty-two lines of printed matter.

The By-Laws of the Grand Chapter itself cover several pages and present a code possessing many excellent features. One section expresses a prohibition, and the reason for it, which latter is subject to some doubt.

"It is contrary to the landmarks to excuse a member from voting upon a petition for the degrees."

The Correspondent is again Comp. Ingersoll, his fifth report. He says of it:

"It contains the best thoughts and most inspiring words of the most learned and distinguished Royal Craftsmen in America, some of whom are leaders of thought in Church and State."

It is a good report and can be read with pleasure. That which is newest and best is honored by extended quotation, notably the Centennial sentiments of several celebrant Grand Chapters. Everything from the Spanish War to the perennial Scottish Rite is attended to in proper place.

Pennsylvania for 1897 has thirty-three lines, and one mistake. Our Grand Officers are *not* elected in September, but the election is held at the December Quarterly, and installation follows on St. John's Day. And for information, it may bear repetition that *all* our High Priests elect receive the order of High Priesthood as an essential part of their installation.

Comp. Ingersoll occupies eighty-nine pages very profitably. He stands firmly for the "American Rite," while we of Pennsylvania are no less loyal to Ancient Freemasonry. It would be a great pleasure to "our boys" if Comp. Ingersoll could visit some of our Pennsylvania Chapters and know more of our doings. We should receive his commendation beyond a doubt.

The Grand Secretary's Abstract of Returns, indicates a net loss in membership of forty.

Comp. E. S. Miller, Johnson City, M. E. Grand High Priest;
Comp. W. A. Clendening, Nashville, R. E. Grand Secretary.

TEXAS, 1899.

The "Transactions" are those of the Fiftieth Grand Annual Convocation, held at Houston, December 5, 6 and 7, 1889.

Comp. J. C. Kidd, Grand High Priest, opened his Grand Chapter in ample form, "fifteen Grand Officers, twelve Past Grand High Priests and the Representatives of seventy-nine Subordinate Chapters present."

The address of the presiding officer is a careful presentation of his official work and gives opportunity for the eloquent expression of his views. He reports eight new Chapters constituted, five of which bear old numbers; nine authorized "to continue work," where suspension had occurred by failure to meet for three consecutive months, and three new Chapters were formed by dispensation.

One dispensation, to install officers publicly, outside the Chapter room, would not attract special notice except for the remark:

"I was glad of the opportunity to issue the above reported dispensation and can only wish that I could have issued more of the same nature."

All which we cordially disapprove.

Eighteen decisions are noted, almost all having reference to regulations local in application.

The Grand High Priest, in "summing up," says:

"The most harmful feature I have noted is the disposition on the part of some to make 'bargain counter' attractions of our degrees. Our State for several years has been overrun with 'organizers.' Every conceivable form of Lodge or Society, by every conceivable name, has been presented to our people. * * *

The result has been that some of our good Companions have feared for Royal Arch Masonry and have thought that we ought to offer stronger inducements to Master Masons to 'come in and be one of us,' and the first thing suggesting itself has been a reduction of fees, the pocket being the tender spot in the average American."

But the conclusion is properly drawn that such tendency is from "failure to properly appreciate what we have."

Suitable and feeling sentences announced the death of a Past Grand High Priest, Comp. Haston Twomey, an earnest and veteran worker in the Christian Church and in Royal Arch Masonry.

The Grand Visitors of the seven districts presented accounts of their labors in detail, assisting, instructing, exalting "trios" and performing their duties most carefully.

The finances were in good condition, a cash balance of \$4,717.23 showing judicious management.

The Grand Secretary reported 146 Chapters, 37 of them doing no work. Exaltations, 204; membership, 6,494—a gain of 120.

The Committee on Work held its usual session, instructing 106 delegates and visitors. Surely a good way to teach the work!

The annual returns were divided for careful scrutiny among three committees, who reported all irregularities or deficiencies.

Comp. Terrell presents his sixth report on Foreign Correspondence and furnishes a most readable and excellent review, covering ninety pages. The usual Grand Chapters and the usual current questions pass easily before him, with kindness for all and severity for none. He has his own ideas and is not afraid to express them, but always with deference to the opinions of others.

Pennsylvania receives nice treatment at his hands, and he appears to understand our ways. We like them, Comp. Terrell—they have long kept companionship with Masonic prosperity and peace.

He again brings up the subject of incorporation, and quietly refers to our Committee on Correspondence as “not incorporated.” Quite correct, for nothing Masonic in Pennsylvania bears such character. Our Grand Lodge has, for a century, bought and sold property, issued and redeemed loans, and now owns more than a million and a quarter in real estate, all without incorporation. And why? For more than two centuries Pennsylvania has followed the common law. By that law, by our successive State Constitutions and by our statutes all corporations are liable to examination (visitation), limitation and dissolution by our Legislature and by our Courts. We hope it may continue so. In our Masonic bodies we do not wish to give any one, outside ourselves, the right to investigate our procedure, nor to become liable to mandamus, injunction, or the appointment of receivers or assignees. In 1836, nothing saved our Grand Lodge Officers from imprisonment but the very fact that Grand Lodge was not incorporated; and as we find no necessity for becoming corporate, we have followed the lesson then taught.

Comp. Terrell has framed a statute, which passed the Legislature and became law, for incorporation in Texas of Masonic and other bodies. It reads well, and is doubtless what they wish. But legislatures are capricious, and amendment or repeal may injure his careful work. A hostile judge and a disgruntled Companion may raise many difficulties. Not likely, we admit, but is it safer to avoid the possibility?

Our Companion says:

“A refusal to incorporate will not keep you out of the Courts. Incorporation will not put you in the Courts.”

The first sentence can be admitted only after many qualifications. The second we must dissent from altogether. So it is in Pennsylvania.

We assure our Companion of our sincere regard.

W. L. Burdett, Paris, Grand High Priest; George Lopas, Jr., Floresville, Grand Secretary.

VERMONT, 1899.

The Eighty-second Annual Convocation called together the Companions of Vermont at Burlington, June 16, 1899.

Comp. Orlando Sherwin, Grand High Priest, in opening, had the assistance of all his Grand Officers, including an Assistant Chaplain, and excepting only the Grand Sentinel. As a Grand Tyler was present, it is not clear to us just what duties belonged to the missing officer. Six Past Grand High Priests and the representatives of twenty-six Chapters participated in the Convocation.

The Grand High Priest paid due respect to the Fraternal Dead, including one Past Grand High Priest, Comp. Homer M. Phelps.

He says:

"I have made no official visitations during the year. During the whole time that the district meetings were being held, I was confined to the house by sickness."

Five Chapters found the time for the consideration of petitions too long, and Brethren, in haste, found relief by dispensation. No decisions were made, "as no questions have been presented." On this, the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers make the following significant comment:

"We congratulate our Grand High Priest on not having to make any decisions; not only on his own account, but because it shows that the Companions of the Royal Craft are law abiding."

The Grand Lecturer reports an unsatisfactory condition as to Ritual. Various committees have been appointed, but have not reported. Action and definite decision are recommended, and a conclusion appears to have been reached. Probably another printed Ritual to be issued.

The same Grand Officer dissipates somewhat the rose color which one finds generally in these proceedings. He says :

“I must confess to a rather pessimistic view of the subject. When District Deputies find themselves unable to arrange for a district meeting because of the unwillingness or inability of officers of Chapters to confer degrees, and when officers do not take interest enough in Capitular Masonry to attend the annual meetings in their respective districts, it looks to me as if the cause was anything but flourishing. We may as well face the situation and inquire into the cause of the apathy which is almost everywhere present. Many Chapters are doing no work, and some, I fear, are in no condition to do work if it was offered.”

One of the causes he assigns for this condition of affairs is doubtless correct: the careless selection of officers. It is seldom, indeed, that a Chapter with good officers remains dormant. And if a Chapter has no members who can and will wake up and attend to official duties, its charter had better be called in.

The Grand Chapter has \$6,851.31; of which \$6,000 is loaned to Grand Lodge.

Past Grand High Priest Marsh O. Perkins again presents the Correspondence, and the ninety-nine printed pages are distinctly creditable in all respects. He quotes judiciously and comments fraternally; and much information can be gathered by the reader. His remarks generally fall under the headings now under discussion or notice by most correspondents, viz :

Physical disqualifications.

Unaffiliated.

Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood.

Rituals.

General Grand Chapter.

His opinions are clearly expressed and without irritation. If, on our reading them, we disagree therewith, according to our "bringing up," it does not necessarily follow that we consider him wrong, or ourselves in error. There is, fortunately, that in Masonry which admits of wide variations in practice, and yet we can live together in harmony. The writer (speaking for himself) hopes never to see the day when exact uniformity shall pervade all Jurisdictions. Such result would destroy much that is now of perennial interest. Individuality attracts, in Masonry, as elsewhere.

Pennsylvania has kind notice. An abstract is given from the address of our Grand High Priest, and the work of our Committee is suitably noticed. We do not, however, see why our method of warranting new Chapters is more "roundabout" than the custom is in Vermont. With us, if Grand Chapter finds no objection, the Grand Officers take the matter in hand for more careful examination. And thus, Grand Chapter is relieved from "turning down" a Grand Officer, who may have improvidently issued a Dispensation. Our Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter both follow this method. The other way obtains in Grand Commandery, in our opinion with less success.

Two thousand seven hundred and eighty-six members,—a gain of thirty-three.

Comp. Charles A. Calderwood, St. Johnsbury, Grand High Priest; Comp. Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington, Grand Secretary.

WASHINGTON, 1899.

Fifteenth Annual Convocation, at Tacoma, June 9, 1899. All the Grand Officers, with five Past Grand High Priests, and representatives from all Chapters except two, present.

Grand High Priest, Comp. John Moore, delivered a brief address. Among the dead, he reports their Grand Chaplain, Comp. Eagan, and that his place had been filled by appointment.

Three Dispensations,—two of them to permit the use of substitutes in the Royal Arch Degree. One decision,—a question of jurisdiction.

“ ‘Contentment’ he says ‘has characterized the Royal Craft. No complaints have been brought before your executive, and there are no grievances in his hands to be submitted.’ ”

The financial balance is \$1,759.61. The various committees found their labors light and easy, the question of Ritual apparently taking most time. It was solved by calling in one Ritual, and disseminating another.

Comp. Blalock presents his tenth report as Correspondent, in seventy-five pages. As heretofore, it is a close compendium of the various proceedings with liberal extracts. We notice but three occasions calling out any opinion whatever from Comp. Blalock, and we give them in their entirety. Under Alabama, (1898)—

“While we hold all ministers ‘who are in good standing as such’ in respectful veneration, we do not believe they are entitled to receive the degrees gratuitously any more than any other professional man. Our experience in such cases, has been almost a total lack of appreciation of the degrees or their teachings by the recipient.”

Next under Kentucky, (1898)—

“We notice it is customary to call the roll just before closing. We think well of the idea, and in our case if the Grand Treasurer would withhold the per diem and expense money in case they did not answer, it would improve the attendance during the closing hours of the Grand Convocation.”

And lastly, under Vermont, (1899), Comp. Perkins having alluded to the negro question, Comp. Blalock responds,—

“ We will say to Companion P, there will be no work presented from Washington, which will not stand the test of the overseer’s square if we can help it, and and especially in the negro line. We are not hunting a row, nor do we want to raise ‘Hades’ at this particular time.”

Eighteen Chapters: 1,171 members,—a gain of twelve.

Comp. D. Lew Paramore, Snohomish, Grand High Priest;
Comp. Yancey C. Blalock, Walla Walla, Grand Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA, 1898.

The Twenty-eighth Grand Annual Convocation, held at Wheeling, November 14, 1898, was presided over by the Grand King, in the absence of the Grand High Priest, whose brief address was read by the Grand Secretary.

The report states that the duties of the highest office have not been “burdensome or oppressive;” that “harmony, zeal and apparent knowledge of Capitular law” have prevailed. One new Chapter was started under dispensation, and a “flourishing condition” prevails.

Due respect is paid to the memory of the lamented Comp. Odel S. Long, both by Grand Officers and printed extracts from proceedings of Subordinate Chapters. Comp. J. W. Morris, a Past Grand High Priest and Past Grand Secretary, took up the work as left by Comp. Long, and by his experience and zeal most ably conducted the business of the Grand Secretariat.

The reports of committees are brief, but show healthy condition, and the finances were right.

Comp. Fred N. Seibert was elected Grand High Priest.

1899.

Twenty-ninth Annual Convocation, held November 14, 1899, at Martinsburg.

Comp. Seibert, Grand High Priest, with Grand Officers, opened Grand Chapter, four Past Grand High Priests being present and 25 Chapters represented.

The presiding officer reported a number of visitations and a "healthful growth." Three Chapters received dispensations to commence work. Two decisions are reported—one requiring reballot on candidates after one year, the second having reference to the mixed condition of Council with Capitular degrees. The Grand High Priest appears to have given faithful and intelligent attention to his duties.

The reports of committees are again brief and to the point. The Committee on Finance finds a good balance—\$2,923.15—and Committee on Doings of Grand Officers heartily commend the Grand High Priest and discourages dispensations to ballot out of time. Committee on Jurisprudence decides that a Chapter U. D. has no jurisdiction upon which to base recommendation for a new Chapter.

Charters were issued to the bodies under dispensation.

There is no report on Correspondence.

Twenty-six Chapters, 1,826 members.

Comp. Walling W. Van Winkle, Parkersburg, Grand High Priest; Comp. R. C. Dunnington, Fairmont, Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN, 1899.

The Forty-ninth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter is the subject of this review. Opened at Milwaukee, February 21, 1899, presided over by Frank C. Jackson, Grand High Priest, it was attended by the representatives of 74 Chapters.

A heavy mourning line indicates the death of the Grand Principal Sojourner. All other Grand Officers with one exception were present.

The Grand High Priest makes reference to the late war, pays tribute to the memory of deceased Companions, among whom was a Past Grand High Priest, Taylor S. Hayhurst. He reports one new Chapter, started under dispensation, and special authority from him in four instances, one being to change a time for regular meeting, and another for a public installation.

His decisions, with one exception, were approved. In that case a candidate, taken out of the room on account of misconduct, wished to proceed, and the Grand High Priest thought it sufficient to begin again where the ceremony was interrupted. In commenting upon the incident he uses language, well worthy of prominence. The ideas are by no means new, but are too often forgotten.

“ But to do anything during the ceremonies whereby a candidate is made to feel or know that there is evidently some amusement for the members and especially to give sly hints or instructions to candidates before and while the work is being done cannot be too strongly condemned ”

The Regulation of his Grand Chapter authorizing the use of a substitute in the Royal Arch Degree, it was decided that the use of *more* than *one* was inadmissible.

He very properly condemns “the practice of giving keys to candidates and instructing them how to read the same,” and disapproves as unlawful “the custom of conferring the Past Master’s Degree on Masters elect.” And his summary is, that his “labors have been light and pleasure great.”

The Grand Lecturer reports an apparent decline in interest in Capitular Masonry. His exhortations and advice seem timely and appropriate.

The Reports of the other Grand Officers show a good condition of finance and healthy administration,—a good cash balance and a net increase of 109 in membership of Subordinate Chapters.

A Committee was appointed "to arrange for the recognition of the Semi-Centennial Anniversary of the Grand Chapter at the Convocation in February, 1900."

During the election of officers it was on motion "ordered, that until after the installation of officers, no Companions should leave the Grand Chapter room, unless specially excused by the presiding officer. Do the habits of our Western Companions make such order necessary?"

Past Grand High Priest Wm. C. Swain presents his Sixteenth Report on Correspondence, in one hundred even pages. It is needless to say that it is well written, judiciously arranged and interesting throughout. One sentence at the outset has our hearty approval.

"We boldly make the assertion, for the benefit of those of our Companions who consider these reports useless, that we have not missed a decision on Masonic law, of general interest, in any jurisdiction and that, whether they agree or disagree as to the correctness of the decisions, or the opinions expressed of them, it is impossible for one to become well versed in Masonic jurisprudence without studying them."

On this subject we feel like saying, that in our opinion the annual reports and reviews have come to stay, and, right or wrong, or partly both, ideas are presented which produce good results. There is no Grand or Subordinate body which is not better to-day by reason of this interchange of opinions and promulgation of ideas. There are some things in Masonry which should not change; some others must yield in the progress of social and political conditions. Entire uniformity will never be reached, nor is it necessary that it should; but in many things the Corps Reportorial has strengthened our fraternal bonds.

Comp. Swain's opinions are presented with candor, and even "old questions" derive new interest from the work of his brain and pen.

Pennsylvania, 1897, receives consideration in two and a half pages, and all quoted from our proceedings and review, excepting about twenty-five lines. He speaks of our Committee as the "usual five," and remarks:

"While the whole report is more harmonious in style than would be expected from five different reviewers, Comps. Stockton and Africa are the most highly gifted with opinions, which they express."

Well, if anything unfortunate happens, three of our number may be protected by this species of *alibi*. It is the suggestion of a refuge which may become valuable.

Our good Comp. Henderson is quoted at length, and with general approval. But the inference is hardly correct that Pennsylvania considers "non-payment of dues a Masonic offense," in the sense of calling for criminal procedure. It is rather a question like civil debt, when execution follows as of course, unless the duly notified defendant produces his "affidavit or statement of defense."

Seventy-four Chapters, 6,083 members.

Comp. Jesse D. Carr, Oshkosh, Grand High Priest; Comp. John W. Laffin, Milwaukee, Grand Secretary.

CONCLUSION.

Our work is before you for inspection. It is the best we could do. To say otherwise would imply a disrespect which we are far from feeling. But, oh! how far below our ideals, is this best. We doubt if any conscientious and reasonably modest man ever approaches his ideal. He may work towards it with such diligence and ability as he possesses but when he looks at the finished product he is dismayed that it is no better.

A thought has been borne to us during our labors. It is the importance of the ego in Freemasonry: not the ego of vanity but the ego of responsibility. From the very first step to the summit and perfection of Ancient Craft Masonry, this lesson is impressed upon us. We sought the portals of the Temple voluntarily, uninfluenced by the improper solicitation of friends and inspired only by a desire for knowledge. One of our earliest avowments was trust in and dependence on a Supreme Being. Our earliest promise was that we would or would not do certain things: and so on we find ourselves continually confronted with the solemn fact that a personal responsibility rests upon us from the time we were brought to see Masonic light and imbibe Masonic knowledge until we travelled from Babylon to Jerusalem to assist at the rebuilding of the House of the Lord. We have been taught the use of the working tools not to apply them to other material but to shape out and erect our own living temple and fit ourselves as living stones therein.

We learned, in the Oriental Chair, that it was both unwise and foolish to undertake that which we were not fully competent, by previously acquired knowledge, to perform. We learned, too, that the charter for our actions should ever be spread before us and that obedience to authority could only be commanded by our first being fully armed with that authority and otherwise fitted to wield it, not for our own exaltation and laudation, but that orderly and beneficial results to others might result from its exercise.

When in the Mark Degree, we offered other than our own work, we learned that we must, ourselves, prepare work that would entitle us to receive wages. We learned further that we must work not for the sake of the wages but that others, entitled to inspect it, might give us our due reward. We

found that we must look well into our own means and resources, not simply vote relief out of a general fund to which, perhaps, we had never contributed.

The Most Excellent Degree taught us that we must dispense Masonic light and knowledge—not merely absorb it. When, with hands upraised, we beheld the beauty and glory of the Temple it was that its radiance might be reflected from us.

Though we had Companionship in the Royal Arch Degree, it was not the Companionship of dependence but of a common purpose to offer, each his services without the expectation of fee or reward.

Our search for the lost word can not be prosecuted as with baying hounds on a lost scent, we must search, each for himself, with patient endeavor. If, haply, in our search, we come upon treasures or sacred relics, they are not our treasure-trove. We must carry them with glad hearts and rejoicing to the council of our brethren.

These are the lessons taught and these are the lessons we ought to learn and practice. From the Great Light in Freemasonry we learn this lesson in the most impressive way. For it is written “First cast out the beam out of thine own eye and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother’s eye.”

“Thou shalt love.”

“And now abideth Faith, Hope, Love: but the greatest of these is Love.”

Let us, then, press on, having faith in the teachings and purposes of Freemasonry, and in its power for good; hoping always that the new name and the white stone may not only

be ours, but the bright portion of all the faithful. With love in our hearts, let us strive always to see the right and do it, teaching by example rather than by admonition, until the white vail shall be lifted and the Ineffable Name be no longer concealed. S. B.

Fraternally submitted,

MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON,

STOCKTON BATES,

J. SIMPSON AFRICA,

JOSHUA L. LYTE,

JAMES H. CODDING,

Committee on Correspondence.

THE GRAND HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1900.

Its Chapters, Place and Time of Meeting, and Secretaries.

No.	Name.	Constituted in	Place of Meeting.	Time of Meeting.	Name and Address of Secretary.
3	Jerusalem.....	1758	Philadelphia.....	Third Monday.....	Stanislaus Remak, Philadelphia.
21	Perseverance.....	1827	Harrisburg.....	First Monday.....	William H. Smith, Harrisburg.
43		1826	Lancaster.....	Third Thursday.....	Joshua L. Lyte, Lancaster.
52	Harmony.....	1794	Philadelphia.....	First Friday.....	John Curtis, Philadelphia.
91	Columbia.....	1822	Philadelphia.....	Third Wednesday.....	Charles F. Wignall, Philadelphia.
150	Washington.....	1827	Washington.....	First Thursday.....	James L. Stright, Washington.
152	Reading.....	1827	Reading.....	Second Monday.....	Nevin M. Davis, Reading.
159	Schuylkill.....	1838	Minersville.....	Third Thursday.....	Henry Hammer, Minersville.
161	Union.....	1845	Towanda.....	Second Wednesday.....	James H. Coddington, Towanda.
162	Zerubbabel.....	1836	Pittsburgh.....	First Tuesday.....	Samuel R. Caskey, Pittsburgh.
163	La Fayette.....	1848	Lock Haven.....	Third Thursday.....	Frank Beardsley, Lock Haven.
164	Brownsville.....	1849	Brownsville.....	Second Tuesday.....	Charles A. Van Horn, Brownsville.
165	Union.....	1849	Uniontown.....	First Thursday.....	Luke H. Frasher, Uniontown.
166	Mount Moriah.....	1849	Holidaysburg.....	Third Tuesday.....	Harry M. Henshey, Holidaysburg.
167	Eureka.....	1849	Rochester.....	Friday after full moon.....	Cornelius Masten, Rochester.
169	Philadelphia.....	1850	Philadelphia.....	Second Wednesday.....	John M. Zook, Philadelphia.
170	Delta.....	1851	New Castle.....	First Tuesday.....	Edward L. Smith, New Castle.
171	St. John's.....	1852	Carlisle.....	First Thursday.....	Charles F. Shower, Carlisle.
172	Temple.....	1853	Tunkhannock.....	Monday after full moon.....	Draper Billings, Tunkhannock.
173	Easton.....	1853	Easton.....	Second Friday.....	Edward B. Arndt, Easton.
174	Northumberland.....	1853	Sunbury.....	Tuesday before full moon.....	Jacob R. Cressinger, Sunbury.
175	Keystone.....	1853	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Monday.....	H. G. O. Ramborger, Philadelphia.
176	George Washington.....	1854	Chambersburg.....	Third Monday.....	Napoleon B. Heefner, Chambersburg.
177	Tamaqua.....	1854	Tamaqua.....	Friday after full moon.....	William Priser, Tamaqua.
178	Catawissa.....	1855	Catawissa.....	Wednesday on or before full moon	Luther B. Kline, M. D., Catawissa.
179	Eureka.....	1855	Carbondale.....	Last Friday.....	John M. Stewart, Carbondale.
180	Warren.....	1854	Montrose.....	First Thursday.....	Oliver A. Gilbert, Montrose.
181	Lilly.....	1855	Mauch Chunk.....	Fourth Tuesday.....	Laird H. Barber, Mauch Chunk.

No.	Name.	Constituted in	Place of Meeting.	Time of Meeting.	Name and Address of Secretary.
182	Shekinah	1855	Wilkes-Barre.....	Third Monday	John G. Torborg, Wilkes-Barre.
183	Oriental.....	1856	Philadelphia	Third Thursday.....	Stockton Bates, Philadelphia.
185	Lackawanna.....	1856	Scranton.....	Second Tuesday.....	C. L. Van Buskirk, Scranton.
186	Lewistown	1856	Lewistown	Third Tuesday.....	W. F. Eckbert, Jr., Lewistown.
187	Oriental.....	1856	Conneautville.....	Third Friday.....	Wm E. Wormald, Conneautville.
189	Mountain	1858	Altoona.....	First Thursday.....	Timothy Davis, Altoona.
190	Norristown.....	1858	Norristown.....	Second Monday.....	William E. Perry, Norristown.
191	Solomon.....	1858	Meadville.....	First Tuesday.....	Alfred G. Church, Meadville.
192	Urania.....	1859	Greensburg.....	Thursday after third Tuesday.....	Jeffery W. Taylor, Greensburg.
193	Duquesne.....	1859	Pittsburgh	Second Friday.....	William J. Carson, Pittsburgh.
194	Tioga.....	1859	Wellsboro.....	Second Tuesday.....	John W. Mather, Wellsboro.
195	Portage.....	1859	Johnstown.....	Fourth Tuesday.....	John J. Jones, Johnstown.
196	Mountain City.....	1859	Pottsville.....	Monday after full moon.....	Charles M. Lewis, Pottsville.
197	Weidle.....	1860	Lebanon	Second Tuesday.....	Charles D. Weirick, Lebanon.
198	Phoenix.....	1861	Phoenixville.....	Saturday after full moon.....	Edward T. Plush, Phoenixville.
199	Howell.....	1864	York.....	2d Wednesday after first Monday	Thomas Wood, York.
200	Columbus.....	1865	Corry.....	Wednesday on or before full moon	David S. Rowe, Corry.
201	Standing Stone.....	1865	Huntingdon.....	First Tuesday.....	Martin L. Shaffner, Huntingdon.
202	Howell.....	1866	West Chester.....	Monday after full moon.....	Charles B. Lear, West Chester.
203	Allen.....	1866	Allentown.....	Third Monday	John F. Wenner, Allentown.
204	Anthony Wayne....	1866	Honesdale.....	Tuesday on or after full moon	Oscar T. Chambers, Honesdale.
205	Factoryville	1866	Factoryville.....	Saturday on or before full moon ..	Benjamin Goodwin, Factoryville.
206	Harmony	1866	Beaver Falls.....	First Thursday	L. R. Strobidge, New Brighton.
207	Aaron.....	1866	Titusville.....	Third Friday.....	John S. Bradley, Titusville.
208	Germanatown.....	1866	Germanatown, Phila.	Third Monday.....	E. R. Stevens, Germanatown, Phila.
209	Samuel C. Perkins..	1866	Mechanicsburg	Second Monday.....	George Bobb, Mechanicsburg.
210	Great Bend.....	1866	Great Bend.....	Second Thursday.....	Thomas Summerton, Great Bend.
211	Venango	1866	Franklin	Second Thursday.....	Charles D. Elliot, Franklin.
212	Mound.....	1866	Greenville.....	Fourth Monday.....	John D. Cutler, Greenville.
214	Valley.....	1867	Plymouth.....	Fourth Friday	Samuel U. Shaffer, Plymouth.
215	Temple.....	1867	Erie	Second Friday.....	George D. Burton, Erie.
216	Zinzendorf	1867	Bethlehem	Second Monday.....	Matthew J. Schmid, Bethlehem.

217	Allegheny.....	1868	Allegheny.....	First Friday.....	Jesse K. Seright, Allegheny.
218	Bloomsburg.....	1868	Bloomsburg.....	First Wednesday.....	C. F. Knapp, Bloomsburg.
219	Griscom.....	1868	Ashland.....	Third Thursday.....	Albert L. Laubenstein, Ashland.
220	Fort Washington...	1868	Fort Washington...	Saturday after full moon.....	Francis E. Heller, Ft. Washington.
221	Tremont.....	1869	Tremont.....	Monday after full moon.....	Benjamin Kaufman, Tremont.
222	Lycoming.....	1869	Williamsport.....	Second Tuesday.....	Wm. Randall Prior, Williamsport.
223	Oxford.....	1869	Oxford.....	Wednesday after full moon.....	Morrison E. Snodgrass, Oxford.
224	Corinthian.....	1869	Columbia.....	Second Tuesday.....	Luther J. Schroeder, Columbia.
225	Jefferson.....	1869	Brookville.....	First Monday.....	Cyrus H. Blood, Brookville.
226	Siloam.....	1869	Frankford, Phila...	Third Wednesday.....	Matthias Coats, Frankford, Phila.
227	Emporium.....	1870	Emporium.....	First Wednesday.....	John D. Logan, Emporium.
228	Clearfield.....	1870	Clearfield.....	Third Friday.....	L. K. McCullough, Clearfield.
230	Elk.....	1870	Ridgway.....	Third Tuesday.....	George L. McCracken, Ridgway.
232	St. John.....	1871	Philadelphia.....	First Tuesday.....	William F. Tracy, Philadelphia.
233	Kensington.....	1871	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Monday.....	Joseph Crockett, Philadelphia.
234	Media.....	1871	Media.....	Monday after full moon.....	William Campbell, Media.
235	Occidental.....	1871	Warren.....	Second Monday.....	Robert W. Teese, Warren.
236	Oil City.....	1871	Oil City.....	Third Thursday.....	Henry C. Goldsborough, Oil City.
237	Excelsior.....	1871	Reading.....	Third Tuesday.....	Thomas E. Weber, Reading.
238	Newport.....	1872	Newport.....	Monday after full moon.....	A. Fred. Keim, Newport.
239	Danville.....	1872	Danville.....	Third Monday.....	John W. Farnsworth, Danville.
240	Palestine.....	1872	Philadelphia.....	Second Friday.....	Edward R. Marsh, Philadelphia.
241	Bellefonte.....	1872	Bellefonte.....	First Friday.....	William H. Crissman, Bellefonte.
242	Pittston.....	1873	Pittston.....	2d Thursday after 1st Wednesday..	Thomas W. Kyte, West Pittston.
243	T. B. Freeman.....	1873	Philadelphia.....	First Tuesday.....	Walter Scott, Philadelphia.
244	Norman.....	1873	Sharon.....	Second Friday.....	John Murchie, Sharon.
245	Abington.....	1873	Jenkintown.....	Tuesday after full moon.....	Edward Bright, Weldon.
246	Warrior Run.....	1874	Watson town.....	Wednesday after full moon.....	Fred. A. Reen, Watson town.
247	Orient.....	1874	Kittanning.....	Second Monday.....	William F. Rupp, Kittanning.
248	Temple.....	1874	Philadelphia.....	Third Tuesday.....	William H. Ziegler, Philadelphia.
249	Monongahela.....	1874	Monongahela.....	Third Thursday.....	John P. Norman, Monongahela.
250	Corinthian.....	1874	Philadelphia.....	First Monday.....	James McCormick, Philadelphia.
251	Signet.....	1874	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Friday.....	Oscar R. Meyers, Philadelphia.
252	Mizpah.....	1875	Mahanoy City.....	Fourth Thursday.....	Phaon Hermany, Mahanoy City.
254	Arnold.....	1877	Port Allegany.....	Second Tuesday.....	James H. Williams, Port Allegany.
255	Bedford.....	1876	Bedford.....	Wednesday after full moon.....	James Cleaver, Bedford.

No.	Name.	Constituted in	Place of Meeting.	Time of Meeting.	Name and Address of Secretary.
256	Fernwood.....	1877	Philadelphia	Fourth Thursday.....	J. Milton Lutz, Upper Darby.
257	Shiloh	1877	Pittsburgh	Third Monday.....	George W. Robitzer, Pittsburgh.
258	Chester.....	1877	Chester	Last Monday.....	Edward A. Price, Jr., Chester.
259	Eden.....	1878	Clarion	Second Tuesday.....	Henry S. Lockart, Shippensburg.
260	Bradford.....	1880	Bradford	Second Thursday.....	Ambrose D. Sloan, Bradford.
261	Troy.....	1882	Troy.....	Thursday on or before full moon..	Isaac Cleaver, Troy, Bradford Co.
262	Montgomery	1882	Ardmore.....	Thursday after full moon.....	Isaac A. Cleaver, Ardmore.
263	Coudersport.....	1882	Coudersport.....	First Wednesday.....	Lalon R. Bliss, Coudersport.
264	Shamokin.....	1883	Shamokin.....	Second Wednesday.....	John B. Savidge, Shamokin.
265	Westfield.....	1883	Westfield	First Friday	James Masten, Westfield.
266	Good Samaritan.....	1886	Gettysburg.....	Third Thursday.....	Dan A. Skelly, Gettysburg.
267	Coatesville	1887	Coatesville	Thursday after full moon.....	George G. Myer, Coatesville.
268	Pittsburgh.....	1888	Pittsburgh	Second Monday.....	Archie K. Henderson, Pittsburgh.
269	Ulysses.....	1888	Ulysses	Second Wednesday,..	Homer K. Lane, Ulysses.
270	Doylestown.....	1889	Doylestown.....	Tuesday on or before full moon...	J. Evan Zorns, Philadelphia.
271	Pottstown.....	1890	Pottstown.....	Third Tuesday.....	Newton S. Kinzer, Pottstown.
272	Hebron.....	1890	Meyersdale.....	Second Monday.....	Martin A. Rutter, Meyersdale.
273	Butler.....	1891	Butler.....	Third Tuesday.....	William A. Stein, Butler.
274	Bangor.....	1891	Bangor.....	Fourth Wednesday.....	Robert S. Wagner, Bangor.
275	Kennett.....	1892	Kennett Square	Wednesday after full moon.....	P. H. Bratton, Kennett Square.
276	The Susquehanna...	1892	Susquehanna.....	Second Friday.....	G. W. Gleason, Susquehanna.
277	Hazleton.....	1893	Hazleton.....	Third Monday.....	Hiram P. Kuntz, Hazleton.
278	Catasauqua.....	1894	Catasauqua.....	Second Wednesday.....	Edmund Randall, Catasauqua.
279	Kane.....	1895	Kane	Third Wednesday.....	William H. Davis, Kane.
280	Cyrus.....	1898	Carnegie.....	Third Thursday.....	George A. Carsten, Pittsburgh.
281	Monroe.....	1898	Stroudsburg.....	Second Friday.....	Morris Evans, Stroudsburg.
282	McKeesport..	1899	McKeesport.....	Fourth Thursday.....	Edwin Soles, McKeesport.
MARK LODGES.					
91	Columbia.....	1825	Philadelphia	Second Monday.....	William P. Buzby, Philadelphia.
214	Girard	1847	Philadelphia	Second Tuesday.	Thomas S. Woodbury, Phila.
216	Excelsior	1854	Philadelphia	Third Tuesday.....	Charles W. Carns, Philadelphia.

GRAND CHAPTERS IN CORRESPONDENCE WITH GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA.

GRAND CHAPTER.	GRAND SECRETARIES.
Alabama	Henry C. Armstrong, Montgomery.
Arizona	George K. Roskruge, Tucson.
Arkansas	John C. Bone, Batesville.
California	William A. Davies, San Francisco.
Canada	George J. Bennett, Hamilton, Ontario.
Colorado	Ed. C. Parmelee, Denver.
Connecticut	James McCormick, Hartford.
Delaware	James H. Price, Wilmington.
District of Columbia	Arvine W. Johnson, Washington.
England	Edward Letchworth, Freemasons' Hall, London.
England, Grand Mark Lodge	C. F. Matier, Mark Masons' Hall, London.
Florida	Wilber P. Webster, Jacksonville.
General Grand Chapter	Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, N. Y.
Georgia	W. A. Wolihin, Macon.
Illinois	Gilbert W. Barnard, Masonic Temple, Chicago.
Indiana	William H. Smythe, Indianapolis.
Indian Territory	Joseph H. Murrow, Atoka.
Iowa	Alf. Wingate, Des Moines.
Ireland	H. E. Flavelle, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
Kansas	Jacob De Witt, Salina.
Kentucky	H. B. Grant, Louisville.
Louisiana	Richard Lambert, New Orleans.
Maine	Stephen Berry, Portland.
Maryland	George L. McCahan, Baltimore.
Massachusetts	J. Gilman Waite, 28 School street, Boston.
Michigan	Jefferson S. Conover, Coldwater.
Minnesota	Thomas Montgomery, St. Paul.
Mississippi	J. L. Power, Jackson.
Missouri	William H. Mayo, St. Louis.
Montana	Cornelius Hedges, Helena.
Nebraska	Francis E. White, Omaha.
Nevada	Chauncey N. Noteware, Carson City.
New Brunswick	William B. Wallace, St. John.
New Hampshire	George P. Cleaves, Concord.
New Jersey	George B. Edwards, Jersey City.
New York	Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo.
North Carolina	Horace H. Munson, Wilmington.
North Dakota	Frank J. Thompson, Fargo.
Nova Scotia	D. H. Campbell, Halifax.
Ohio	Edwin Hagenbuch, Urbana.
Oregon	James F. Robinson, Eugene.
Pennsylvania	Charles Cary, Philadelphia.
Quebec	Will H. Whyte, Montreal.
Rhode Island	William R. Greene, Providence.
Scotland	Robert S. Brown, Edinburgh.
South Carolina	J. T. Barron, Columbia.
South Dakota	George A. Pettigrew, Flandreau.
Tennessee	W. A. Clendening, Nashville.
Texas	George Lopas, Jr., Floresville.
Vermont	Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington.
Victoria	John Braim, Melbourne.
Virginia	James B. Blanks, Petersburg.
Washington	Yancey C. Blalock, Walla Walla.
West Virginia	Robert C. Dunnington, Fairmont.
Wisconsin	John W. Laffin, Milwaukee.

REPRESENTATIVES

TO AND FROM

GRAND CHAPTERS.

EDWARD J. JAMES	Alabama	H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.
WILLIAM J. KELLY	Arkansas	JOHN G. HOLLAND.
J. SIMPSON AFRICA	California	JAS. WRIGHT ANDERSON.
THOMAS R. PATTON	Canada	DONALD McPHIE.
FRANK J. COLLINS	Connecticut	A. E. BLAKESLEE.
SAMUEL W. LATTA	Colorado	HARPER M. ORAHOOD.
JAMES S. BARBER	Delaware	JOHN W. LAWSON.
DANIEL W. HUTCHIN	District of Columbia	MARTIN R. THORP.
H. OSCAR KLINE	Florida	LOUIS C. MASSEY.
GEORGE P. BALMAIN	Georgia	A. I. LEET.
GEORGE E. WAGNER	Grand Mark Lodge of England	WILLIAM J. HUGHAN.
GEORGE B. WELLS	Illinois	P. W. BARCLAY.
FRANK M. HIGHLEY	Indiana	SIMEON S. JOHNSON.
RICHARD M. JOHNSON	Indian Territory	JAMES F. HUMPHREY.
JOSHUA L. LYTE	Iowa	CHARLES H. WILDER.
SAMUEL W. WRAY	Kansas	THOMAS L. BOND.
EDGAR A. TENNIS	Kentucky	GEORGE A. LEWIS.
SAMUEL C. PERKINS	Louisiana	J. H. CALDWELL.
ALEXANDER McCUNE	Maine	MARQUIS F. KING.
J. HENRY WILLIAMS	Maryland	GEORGE L. WELLINGTON.
MARTIN L. SHAFFNER	Massachusetts	
N. FERREE LIGHTNER	Minnesota	JAMES RIDLER.
THOMAS JACOBS	Mississippi	S. C. CONLY.
HENRY J. McCARTHY	Missouri	REUBEN BARNEY.
GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR. . . .	Nebraska	ROBERT W. FURNAS.
ISAAC N. GRUBB	Nevada	ROBERT L. FULTON.
SAMUEL W. LATTA	New Brunswick	THOMAS A. GODSOE.
ROBERT J. LINDEN	New Hampshire	SAMUEL CONDON, JR.
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CHARLES CARY	New York	JACOB M. STORER.
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JOSEPH M. WIATT	South Carolina	EDWARD B. HUME.
HARRY M. VAN ZANDT	South Dakota	GEORGE H. RATHMAN.
THOMAS R. PATTON	Scotland	LINDSAY MACKERSY.
HIBBERT P. JOHN	Tennessee	JOHN M. SEARS.
WILLIAM A. SINN	Texas	B. R. ABERNETHY.
LOUIS WAGNER	Vermont	J. HENRY JACKSON.
M. H. HENDERSON	Victoria	HUGH WILLIAM SINCLAIR.
CONRAD B. DAY	Virginia	R. M. FERGUSON.
JOHN KELLER	Washington	LOUIS ZIEGLER.
JOHN C. WALLACE	West Virginia	JOHN C. RIHELDAFFER.
CHARLES K. FRANCIS	Wisconsin	CHARLES V. BARDEEN.

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OF
The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter
OF
PENNSYLVANIA

1900

MICHAEL WILLIAM JACOBS, M. E. GRAND HIGH PRIEST.
P. O. Address, Harrisburg, Pa.

EDWARD B. SPENCER, M. E. GRAND KING.

HENRY OSCAR KLINE, M. E. GRAND SCRIBE.

THOMAS R. PATTON, M. E. GRAND TREASURER.

CHARLES CARY, M. E. GRAND SECRETARY.
P. O. Address, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, Pa.

Past Grand High Priests.

SAMUEL C. PERKINS, 1866-1867
GEORGE E. WAGNER, 1876
WILLIAM C. HAMILTON, M. D., 1879-1880
HIBBERT P. JOHN, 1881-1882
GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., 1885-1886
MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, 1887-1888
JAMES S. BARBER, 1889-1890
ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, 1891-1892
EDGAR A. TENNIS, 1893-1894
EZRA S. BARTLETT, 1895-1896
RICHARD M. JOHNSON, 1897-1898

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